

0:6:0 Chris: Wyrill
LAZARILLO,

OR,
The Excellent History

OF
LAZARILLO de TORMES,

The witty Spaniard.

Both Parts.

The first translated by

David Rowland, and the second gathered out of the Chronicles of

Toledo, by *Iean de Luna* a Castilian, and done into

English by the same

Bridges Author.

Accuerdo, Olvido.

London, Printed by B. G. for William Leake, at the Crown in Fleetstreet, betwixt the two Temple-gates, 1669.

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Carpenter



TO THE

Right Honourable,

GEORGE Lord CHANDOS

Baron of Sudeley, &c.

My LORD;

THis little History of
a Spaniards Life,
(for those will mistake it
who imagine it a Fiction)
bath travail'd all France
and Italy, and lately re-
urn'd into Spain, where it

A 3 was

was born; for there the Original receiv'd some mutilation by lopping off such Passages as grated too hard upon the honour of that Nation. I saw it take so well in other Languages; endeavour'd (at my late abode in Toledo) to get a sight of the entyre Original, which had not suffered the Inquisitors hand; and such clauses as I found wanting in other Copies, I Transcrib'd out of that. I
knew

knew it was done into Eng-
lish before ; but by compa-
ring the Translation, I
found so many Lapses (e-
specially in the former
Part) that I resolved to
help Lazaro out of worse
hands than any of his se-
ven Masters. In the case
he now is, Lazarillo
humblly presents himself to
your Lordship : he would
not presume so far till he
thought his condition some-
thing better'd, & now (when

A 4 he

be conceives himself at best)
he in all duty makes choice
of your Lordship, whom
he knows to be a Personage
so perfectly noble, that the
least spot upon your Honour
would be more insupportable
than the effusion of all your
blood. He hath tasted all
conditions, and knows how
to distinguish Times & Per-
sons, which taught him that
the Sun is never more the
Sun, than when it breaks
through all Clouds and diffi-
culties

culties which seek to oppose
it. I humbly beg your Lord-
ship's pardon for so slender
an Oblation ; it was my
hasty zeal to do this now, ra-
ther than stay for a better,
which might more besit

(My Lord)

Your Lordship's most humble
and devoted Servant,

JAMES BLAKESTON.

THE

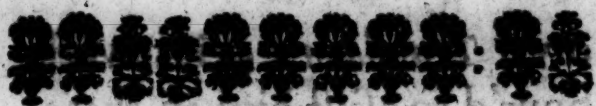
which look to oppose
it. I humbly beg your Lord-
ship's pardon for so slender
an Opinion; it was my
best I could do for a better
which might more best

(My Lord)

Your Lordship's most humble
and devoted servant,

JAMES BLAKESTON.

THE



The Publisher to the Reader.

YOU have often heard of
the Name of *Lazarillo*;
his Life was so remarka-
ble, that it still stands Registred
in the *Chronicles of Toledo*.
But of all his hard fortunes,
none stuck so long as the mang-
ling and curtalling his ingeni-
ous History, by those who had
the Licensing of Books in *Sal-*
amanca. I have done poor *La-*
zaro so much right as to help
him to his own, by an Original
which lately fell into my
hands. Besides, I was sorry to
see him so misreported by our
own

own *Translators* ; I have labour'd to assist him in that also. He that first compil'd his History was known for a Person of no ordinary wit ; the *Italians* and *French* (who so greedily translated him) assure us he was so. As for those of our own Country , I never met any that read *Lazarillo*, but preferr'd him before others of a far larger bulk. He is always brief, always merry, I might say witty, for right Mirth is never without Wit. And (without losse of modesty be it spoken) none that liked *Lazarillo* before, as all did that saw him, but may like him better now.

Farewel.



CARTA DEDICATORIA.

*Al Ilustrissimo y excellentissimo Senhor
Don, &c.*

Illustriss. y excellentiss. Senhor.

DOs colas me han mouido a dedicar a V. S. esta obra: la una y mas principal es, para monstrar en algo la voluntad que tengo de seruir a quien por tantos titulos lo merece, y a quien estoy tan obligado. La otra para arri-
mar

Carta Dedicatoria.

mar al pobre *Lazaro* a la
sombra, y amparo de quien
con su autoridad lo destenda,
con su virtud lo adorne, y con
su sauiduria lo califique. Las
verdades y desnudas sin reboco
que este libro dize, el fuego
hecho passar por le han
para que acrisolado llegasse a
las manos de Vu. Sennoria. He
lo hecho traducit en Ingles,
fiel, y literalmente, para que se
manifieste, su inocencia, y vea
que en le no ay cosa que passe
les limites de una honesta,
licita y loable recreacion:
antes es una centinela que de-
subre de lexos los enemigos, y
fuestra los tropiecos y bar-
rancos,

Carta Dedicatoria.

rancos, en que los ignorantes por falta de aduertencia caen y tropiecan. Supplico a V. S. le reciva con su clementia, y bondad acostumbrada, no echando a atreuimiento, lo que ha nacido del desseo que tengo de emplear mi vida, y fuerças, en seruicio de quien soy el mas humilde, y obediente de sus criados.

I. DE LUNA.

tanos, en que los ignorantes
por falta de advertencia caen
y tropiezan. Suplico a V. S.
receptiva con la clemencia, y
bondad acostumbrada, no
echando a streminiento lo que
ha nacido del dolo que tengo
de emplear mi vida, y fuerzas,
en servicio de quien soy el
mas humilde, y obediente de
sus criados.

L. DE LUNA.



L A Z A R O

*Declareth his Life, and
whose Son he was.*

YOur Worship shall understand before all things, that my name is *Lazaro de Tormes*, son of *Thome Gonfales*, and *Antonio Petes*, Native of *Tsesiãres*, a Village near *Salamanka*: I was born within the River called *Tormes*, whereof I took my Surname: my Father (whom God pardon) had the charge of a Mill standing upon that River, wherein he supplied the room of a Miller about 15. years. It fortun'd on a night, my mother being great with Child was there brought to bed, and then was I
B born:

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born : therefore now I may truly report the River it self, to be the place of my Nativity : and after the time I came to the age of eight years, there was laid to my fathers charge, that he had shamefully cut the seams of mens Sacks that came thither to grinde ; wherefore he was taken and imprisoned ; and being tormented, he confessed the whole matter, denying nothing wherefore he was persecuted. I trust in God that he is now in Paradise, seeing the Gospel doth say, that Blessed are such as confesse their faults. About the same time an Army was made against the Turkes, and my Father being then banished for the mishap aforesaid, chanced to be one, supplying the room of a Muliter, under a Knight which went thither, in whose service, like a true and faithful man, he ended his life. My Mother being then a comfortless Widdow, after the loss of her dear husband.

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husband, determined to inhabit among such as were virtuous and honest, to be of that number, and therefore came immediately to this noble City, where after she had hired a little house, she kept an Ordinary table for divers students; and washed shirts for a company of Horse-keepers, belonging to the Commander of *Magdalena*, by means whereof, she had occasion to make often resort unto the Stables, where in continuance of time, a black *Moor*, one of Master Commanders men, became to be familiarly acquainted with her: So that for his part, he would oftentimes arrive at midnight at our house, and return again betimes in the morning, otherwhiles at noontide, demanding at the door whether my Mother had eggs to sell, and so come in pretily without suspicion. At the beginning I was right sorry to see him make repair

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thither, being afraid to behold his black uncomely visage : but after that I once perceived how only by his resort our fare was so well amended, I could by no means find in my heart to hate him, but rather bear him good will, rejoycing to see him: for he always brought us home with him good round Candles of Bread, and peices of broken Meat, and in the Winter time, Wood to warm us withal. To be short, by his continual repair thither, matters went so forward, that my Mother found in good time to bring forth a young Moor, whom I daily plaid withal, and sometimes helped to warm. And I remember very well, that on a time, as my Step-father plaid merrily with his young son, the litt'e child perceiving that my Mother and I were white, and his Father black as Jet, he ran away for fear to my Mother, and stretching forth his finger, cry-
ed

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ed *Mamma* the Bugge: whereat my black Step-father would laugh, and say, a Whoreson, art thou afraid of thy Father? Although I was then but young, I right well marked the Childs words, and said to my self, there are many such in the world, which do abhor and flee from others, because they cannot see what shape they have themselves. Within a while after, it pleased fortune, that the daily conversation of *Zaide* (for so was my Fathers name) came to the ears of him that was Steward to Master Commander, who made such streight inquiry, that he was advertised how the black Moor did use to steal half the Provender that was allowed the Horses, yea, horse-coverings, sheets and Curry-combes, other whiles Wood, and Bran: which things indeed he always said were lost, and when nothing could be gotten to serve his turn, he would never stick

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to unshoe the Horses, to get some gain, presenting daily all such gifts to my Mother, as a help to bring up my little black Brother. Let us never therefore marvel more at those which steal from the poor, nor yet at them which convey from the houses they serve, to present therewith whom they love, in hope to attain thereby their desired pleasure, seeing that love was able to encourage this poor bond-man, or slave, to do thus much as I have said, or rather more, which by evident tryal was afterwards proved true; for I being examined of the deed, after much threatening, was constrained as a child, for fear, to discover the whole matter, confessing how I had sold certain horse-theoes to a Smith at my Mothers commandment: wherefore my miserable Step-father was by judgement of the Law, as the order is there, whipped and Larded, and

to

There is an order in that Country, when any Moor doth commit any heynous offence, to strip him naked, and being bound with his hands and his knees together, to bast him with hot drops of burning Lard.

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to my Mother express commandement was given upon the usual pain of an hundred stripes, no more to enter into the house of the above named Commander, nor yet entertain into hers the unfortunate *Zaide*. My sorrowful Mother fearing to throw the Helve after the Hatchet, determined by all means to keep their commandement, wherefore she entered into service with those which at that time, dwelt at the ordinary Inne called *Solanas* so to escape danger, and to avoid the dangerous reports of evil tongues, where she suffered much sorrow, and there brought up my black Brother, until he was able to run abroad, and that I being a good stripling, could go up and down the Town to provide the guests of Wine, and Candles and other things necessary. In this mean time, there happened a Blind-man to come thither to lodge, who thinking me

There is no provision there in Inns: for the guests must send abroad into the Town, for all such victual as they need.

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to be a fit man to lead him, desired my Mother that I might serve him, wherewith she being right well content, most earnestly prayed him to be a good Master unto me, because I was an honest mans son, who in maintaining the faith of Jesus Christ against Turks, dyed in the battel of *Gelves*, and how that she trusted in Almighty God, I would prove as honest a man as he: therefore in any wise that he would be careful over me, being a fatherless Child. Let me alone then (answered he) I will not use him as a servant, but as a son. Then in happy time I began to serve my Old and New Master: And after we had remained certain days at *Salamanka*, my blind Master perceiving his gain there to be but small, determined to depart thence: and a little before our departure, I went to see my Mother: when I came where she was, we shed both most bitter tears, and she gave

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gave me her blessing, saying, Now my dear son, I shall see thee no more, therefore be a good Child, I pray God be thy help; I do thank the Lord, I have brought thee up well hitherto, and I have now put thee to a good Master, from henceforth provide for thy self, seeing that I have done my part. I took my leave, and returned in hast to my Master, which tarried for me, ready to take his Voyage. So we departed out of *Salamanka*, and came on our way as far as the Bridge, at the entrance whereof standeth a beast of Stone, fashioned much like a Bull: as soon as we came near it, the blind man willed me to approach: saying, *Lazaro*, put thine ear to this Bull, and thou shalt hear a terrible noise within it: as soon as he had said the word, I was ready like a fool to bow down my head, to do as he had commanded, thinking that his words had been most true: but

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but the traiterous Blind-man suspecting how near it my Head was, thrusteth forth his Arm upon a sodain, with such force, that my fore Head took such a blow against the divellish Ball, that for the space of three days my Head felt the pains of his Horns, wherefore he was right glad and said: Consider now what thou art thou foolish Cass, thou must understand, that the blind-mans Boy, ought to know one trick more than the Devil himself. It seemed then immediately that I waked out of simplicity, wherein I had of long time slept (like a child) and I said to my self, my blind Master hath good reason, it is full time for me to open mine eyes, yea, and to provide and seek mine own advantage, considering that I am alone without any help. We continued on our journey, and within few days I came to good knowledge; so he percei-
ving

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ving what a ready tongue I had, was right-glad, and said; neither gold nor silver can I give thee, howbeit, I do mean to teach thee the way to live, and so certainly he did: for next after God he made me a Man, and although he was Blind it was he that gave me light, and that taught me how to know the world. I rejoyce to declare unto your worship these Childish toys, that you may see how commendable it is for a man of low estate to be brought to authority and exalted, and contrariwise what a shame it is, a man from dignity and estimation, to be pulled down to wretched misery. But to return to my blind Master, and to shew his nature I assure you, that sith the beginning of the World, God never made Man more deceitful and crafty: for in his Art and Trade of Living, he far passed all other: he could recite by heart a hundred long Prayers and more, yea
and

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and the life of all holy Saints : at his devotion time he used such a loud tunable voice, that it might be heard throughout the Church where he prayed ; and besides a'l that, he could counterfeit a good devout countenance in praying, without any strange gesture, either with mouth or eye, as other blind are accustomed to use. I am not able to recite a thousand other manner of ways which he had to get money : he would make many believe that he had prayers for divers good purposes, as for to make women bring forth children, yea, and to make men to love their Wives, although they had hated them before never so much. He would prognosticate to Women that were with Child, whether they should bring forth a Son or a Daughter : in matters of Physick he would affirm that Galea never knew half so much as he : also for any greif, the tooch-ach,
or

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or any other disease, there was never one complained, but that immediately he would say, do this, do that, seeth such an Herbe, take such a Root: So that by this his continual practise, he had daily great resort made unto him, (especially of Women) which did faithfully beleive all that ever he said: by them he had great gain, for he won more in a month, than twenty of his occupation did in a whole year. Yet for all his daily gains, you must understand that there was never a man so wretched a niggard. For he caused me not only to dye for hunger, but also to want whatsoever I needed. And therefore to confess the truth, if I had not found out means to help my self, I had been buried long since. Wherefore oftentimes I would so prevent him of all his craft, that my portion should prove as good as his: and to bring my matter so to pass, I used
won-

for

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wonderful deceits (whereof I will recite unto you some) although sometimes my practising of them did cost me bitter pains.

This blind man carried always his bread and his victual in a little bag of cloth, which was shut at the mouth with an iron buckle, under a miserable lock and key: at the time of putting his meat in, and taking it out, he would keep such straight account, that all the world was not able to deceive him of one crum, and therefore there was no help, but that I must needs be content with that small allowance that he gave me, which always I was sure to dispatch at two morsels; and as soon as ever he had shut his little lock, he would think then, that all were sure, imagining that I had other matters in hand: then would I boldly untie, and sow up again the side of his covetous sack, using daily to lance one of the sides, there to take out

not

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not only Bread at mine own pleasure, but also slices of flesh, and sweet Carbonado's : So that by such means, I found convenient time to ease the raging hunger, which he was cause of.

Moreover, all the money that ever I could convey and steal from him, I changed always into half blanks, and when any man demanded any prayer, he had always of ordinary a blank given him for his hire, and because he could not see, it should be delivered to me : But he could never so soon put forth his hand to receive it, but I was as ready to throw it into my Mouth, and by quick exchange, to give the just value of half of it, whereat he would much murmur, knowing by the only feeling of it what it was, and would say ; How in the Devils name chanceth it, that sithence thy coming to me, I received but half blanks, and before I had always a whole

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Blind
men
stand
there in
Church
porches,
ready to
be hired
for mo-
ney to
recite
any
prayer.

whole blank, and sometimes two? I think surely, that thy unluckiness be cause thereof. From that time forward, he thought good to shorten his prayers cutting them off in the midst: wherefore he commanded me, that as soon as the Almes-giver had turned his back; I should pluck him by the cloke. Then straight-ways changing tune, he would begin to cry with loud voice (as blind men use to do) who will hear such a devout prayer, or else the life of some Saint? At dinner or supper time, he had always before him a little pot full of wine, which oftentimes I would lay hand on, and after two or three kisses send it him secretly home again: But that happy time continued but a while, for I was wont to leave so little behind me, that he might soon espy the fault, as indeed immediate y he did mistrust the whole matter: wherefore he began a new order, not

to

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to leave his wine any more at random, but to avoid danger, had always his little pot fast by the ear, so to be sure of his drink.

Yet notwithstanding, for all this, the Adamant stone had never such vertue to draw Iron to it, as I had to suck up this wine with a long reed, which I had prepared for the purpose: for, as soon as the end of my reed had been once in, I might well desire him to fill the pot again. Yet at the last, the crafty blind man chanced to feel me, & being angry, determined to take another way, to place his pot between his legs, covering it still with his hand, so to avoid all former dangers: when he had so done, I being accustomed to drink wine, did long to taste of it, and perceiving that my reed could then no more prevail at all, I devised another kind of fetch, how to make a hole at the bottom of his wine pot & to stop the same with a little soft

C

wax,

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wax, so that at dinner time, making
a shew as I were ready to dye for
cold, I would creep between the
blind mans legs, to warm my self
at his small fire, by the heat whereof,
the wax being little in quantity,
would so melt away, that the wine
would issue down into my mouth,
freshly and trim: I being sure to
gape upward so just, that one drop
should never fall beside. So that
when my blind Master would taste
of his wine, he should never find
drop to quench his thirst, whereat
he would much marvel, cursing and
swearing all manner of Oaths, yea
wishing the pot, and all that was
within it, at the Devil, musing still
how his wine should be so consu-
med away. Then straightways to
excuse my self, I would say, I trust
you will not mistrust me, gentle Un-
cle, seeing that the pot came never
out of your own hand. Whereupon
then to be well informed of the
truth,

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truth, he began to feel and to grope
the pot over so often, that at last he
found the spring, and at that time
dissembled quietly the matter, as if
he had perceived nothing. The next
day I began again to prepare my
self after my accustomed sort to take
my pleasure of his wine, being igno-
rant of the evil that should ensue,
thinking that my master would ne-
ver have mistrusted me about such
a matter, wherefore I was merry and
careless. But my cruel master, per-
ceiving after what strange sort I
received those sweet drops of wine,
which came forth as a quick spring
at his pots bottom, my face bent to-
wards Heaven mine eyes in manner
closed, so to receive with more de-
light, and better taste that pleasant
liquor, which I thought did preserve
my life, the malicious blind man
having time of revengement at his
will, distred up the sweet and sour
pot (as I may say) and with all his
-1103 C 2 force,

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force, clapped it so rudely upon my face, that I thought verily Heaven above, and all therein, had fallen upon me. The cruel blow was such that it took away my senses, it troubled fore my brains, and my face was all cut with peices of the broken pot; yea, and some of my teeth were then broken, which as yet is seen; wherefore I never loved him after, howbeit he cherished me daily: yet for all the false love and friendship which he shewed, I perceived right well how glad he was, that he had so punished me.

To make me amends, he washed with wine the wounds, which the unhappy pot had made, and after much laughing said, What saist thou to this my boy, the wine that hath done thee hurt, I shall now heal thee again, and I such other merry jests, which I utterly disliked. As soon as I began to recover, and that my face was in manner healed, I

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considered with my self, how that with few more such blows, the blind man might quickly bring me to my grave: And therefore determined to shorten his days, if I could, which thing I went not about immediately, but tarried a due time, for mine own safety and advantage.

And whereas afterwards I went about to forget mine anger, and to forgive him the blow, the evil usage and entertainment which he daily shewed me, would in no wise consent thereto. For still he tormented me with fore blows, without any offence, or fault at all. And when any man demanded, why he handled me so cruelly, straightways he would up and declare the discourteous of his port, saying; Do you not think this Child is some innocent, and always at the end of his tale, these would be his words; Who, unless the Devil himself could have found

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out such rare pranks; The people
would much marvel at my invention,
and blessing themselves, would
say unto my master: Punish him,
punish him, God will reward you
therefore: which thing he did, con-
tinually, & would have done with-
out their bidding; wherefore I daily
led him thorow the worst ways I
could find possibly, all for very
spite, minding, if I could, to do him
harm: where I might espy stones
or mire, I would even thorow the
thickest: and although I could ne-
ver escape dry foot, I was glad with-
losing one of mine own eyes, to put
out both his that never had any. At
such times of his sorrows, to be re-
venged, he would rake hold with
his nails, on the hinder part of my
head, where with his often pulling,
he had left very few hairs behind:
it would never avail me then to say,
that I could find no better way, nor
yet to swear, how I did not lead
him

He was
born
blind.

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him that naughty way maliciously,
for he was so subtil, that to my
words he would give small credit.

But now, because your Worship
shall understand, how far his craft
did extend, I will declare one chance
amongst many, which happened in
the time I served him, wherein he
seemeth to give full understanding
of his subtilty: When we departed
out of *Salamanca*, his intent was to
come to the City of *Toledo*, knowing
that the people were richer there
than in other places, although not so
charitable, yet for all that, leaning
to his old proverb: *More grieveth the
niggard than the naked*, we took our
voyage thorow the best villages we
could find, where we found great
gain and profit, continuing after
such sort a certain time: and where,
as we liked not our entertainment,
the third day we would be sure to
take our leave, and to end our year.
It fortun'd at the last, that we arri-

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ved at a Town which is called *Almora*, at such time as they gathered their grapes, where one of the vineyard gave my master a whole bunch, which by reason of the late time, were more than ripe, so that some were ready to fall from the bunch: wherefore he could by no means carry it in his bag, by reason it was so moist. Therefore he determined to make a sumptuous banquet with it, partly because he had no means to carry it with him, and partly because he thought it best to please me, which had received that day many cruel blows.

As soon as we found a valley fit for the purpose, we sat us down, and my master said, *Lazaro* my boy, I will now use a great liberality towards thee: it is my pleasure, that both of us shall eat friendly together this bunch of grapes, whereof thy part shall be as much as mine, we will part it after this sort, thou shalt

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shalt take one grape, and I another,
promising me faithfully, that thou
wilt not take above one at a time,
and I will do the like to thee; and
so we will quietly end our bunch,
without any fraud or guile on either
part.

Upon that condition we agreed,
and began our banquet: but my mas-
ter belike forgetting his promise,
did soon change purpose, for imme-
diately he began to pick the grapes
by two and two, thinking perad-
venture that I would do the like, as
he might well think. Indeed I was
not far behind him, for as soon as I
perceived that he had broken the
Law, I was not content to go by
two and two, as he did, but went
before him, taking up by two and
three together, and sometimes more
as I was best able.

When the bunch was ended, he
took the stalk in his hand, and wag-
ging his head said; *Lázaro thou hast*
de-

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deceived me, by God thou hast eaten by three and three. I utterly denied it, and said, Indeed Uncle it is not true: why should you think so? Then he like a crafty blind man answered, I did perceive straightways how the matter went, for when I began to take up by two and two, thou never didst find fault, but didst keep silence. I then laughed to my self, although I was but young, I considered well his discreet consideration.

Now Sir, to avoid long talk, I will leave apart many matters, as well pleasant, as worthy to be noted, which have fortuned to me with this my first master. I will only tell what happened a little before I departed: we came to *Szalana*, a Town of the Dukes, and when we were at our lodging, he gave me a peice of a sausedge to rost the which being almost enough, and the fat propped and pressed out upon thin
slices

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Slices of bread as the fashion is, and those being eaten he drew his purse and boldly drew out a *Marevedi*, willing me to fetch the value thereof in wine. The Devil, who (as they say) is the occasion that men become thieves, was ready at hand to prepare opportunity to deceive him. It happened, that near the fire there lay a little rook, somewhat long and evil favoured, such an one as he like was not servicable for the pot; and therefore was left there as abject; and as at that time there was no more but he & I alone, I felt my self pinched with a liquorish appetite, my teeth being set on edge with the sweet savour of his roasted sausedge (the which was the onely witness that I should be the eater thereof) I not regarding what the sequel might be, laying aside all manner of fear, for to fulfill my rash desire, in the mean while, that the blind man was drawing his purse, I whipt off quickly

Here they use few gridirons but all spits, and do roast overthwart the coals. A *Marevedi*, is the sixt part of an English Penny.

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ly the faufedge from the spit, and
thereon broached the foresaid
worm-eaten root, which my Master
most willingly took, and began to
turn, thinking to roast that, which
for the goodness was not worthy to
be boiled. And as yet I saw not
him. So I went for wine, and by the
way I made a fair end of my fau-
fedge, and as soon as I came in again
I found my master wringing be-
tween two slices of bread, then augh-
ty root, not knowing what it was:
for with his finger he had not as yet
touched it. Immediately after he be-
gan to eat, taking a large bit of his
bread, meaning to have tasted a little
of his faufedge, but his teeth entered
into the root, where he found a cold
monck: whereat he being sore a-
bashed, shewed it to me, and said,
Lazaro, what meanest thou? I then
answered: Now *Jesus* what is this?
Alas wretch that I am, do you mean
to blame me, you know well that I
came

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came but now from the Tavern with wine, surely some naughty man hath been here, that hath done this in despite or mockage. No, no, then said he, that cannot be possible, for I never let the spit go thence out of mine own hands. Then to clear my self, I began to swear all Oaths, that I was innocent of that vile exchange: but all was in vain, for from the subtilty of that ungracious blind man, nothing could be kept hid.

He rose up and took fast hold on my head, to smell whether he could feel the savour of his sausedge: and as soon as ever he felt occasion to suspect that I had eaten it, he was as glad as a good Bloud-hound, that had his chase in the wind: Wherefore, to be better informed of the truth, being sore indued with angert, he rashly opened my mouth with the strength of his hands, so that perforce I was faine to gape even to the utter-

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uttermost, and then he thrusteth in
all hast, into my mouth, his worm-
eaten nose, which was both long
and sharp, yea, which at that time
by reason of great anger, was length-
ned a long handfull, so that the pike
thereof did gash my throat. Where-
fore, partly by reason of fear that I
was in, and partly because the sau-
sedge in such short time was not set-
led in my stomach, but most of a'l,
by reason of the great trouble which
his monstrous nose put me to,
wherewith I was in a manner chok-
ed, I was forced to discover my glur-
rony, so that the sausedge of neces-
sity returned to his old master again:
for my poor stomach was so much
altered, that before the blind man
had drawn out his hoggish nose, I
was even ready to render up the
cheft. For look as soon as ever he
had pulled out his snout, the evil
eaten sausedge came gushing out
after, in honest company. O mighty
God,

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God, who had been then buried, might well have looked for my company, for I was altogether dead: his rage was then so great, that if men had not come in, I think certainly he would have taken away my life. With much ado I got me out of his hands leaving him with his claws full of that small quantity of hair which I had left (all which torment he most justly deserved, seeing that through his naughtiness I suffered such persecution.) The ungodly blind man would then declare to as many as came in, my unfortunate disgraces, rehearsing often over, as well the Tale of his pot, and of the bunch of grapes, as also this last trick of his faulledge. The laughter that men made was so great, that all such as were in the street came in to see the Feast, where he recited with such grace all my misadventures, that me thought verily, I did them great wrong in not laughing for company.

When

When all this was past, there came
 to my mind a certain faint and
 slothful cowardness which I had
 committed, in not leaving him
 noseless, seeing that I had time fit for
 the purpose: yea, and that I had
 gone half the way to do it. For if I
 had but closed my teeth together,
 his nose had never gone more a-
 broad: and truly I believe, because
 it was the nose of that haughty
 man, it would have better agreed
 with my stomach, than the sausage
 did, for had it once been invisible, I
 might well have denied it him a-
 gain. Now I would to God my teeth
 had done their part, for it had been
 better so, than otherwise. The ho-
 stess, and others that were there,
 made us friends, and with the wine
 which I had brought for his supper,
 they washed my face and my throat
 which his nails had all torn.

Whereat he made much grudging,
 saying, certainly this boy doth con-

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sume me more Wine in a year, with
washing his wounds, than I do drink
in two. Without doubt *Lazaro* thou
art more bound to Wine, than to
thy Father, for he only begot thee
once, and it hath saved thy life a
thousand times, (and so declared
how many times he had wounded
me, and healed me again with
Wine, and then said again: I
promise thee truly *Lazaro*, if any
man in the world shall have happy
chance with Wine, it is thou.

Which words caused those that
were there to laugh heartily, I being
still in most sorrowful despair. But
look what the blind man prognosti-
cated them, it was not all in vain, for
his sayings at that time proved af-
terward most true: wherefore I
have oftentimes since called to
mind his words, whereby it appear-
ed that he had a great gift in pro-
phecying, & therefore it hath often
repented me of my cruel dealing.

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towards him, although his deserts were evil, seeing that his words of Prophecy proved so true, as hereafter your Worship shall plainly understand.

To conclude, his evil nature and my usage considered, I determined to forsake him for ever: and as I imagined daily thereupon, desirous to depart, this his last deed perswaded me fully thereunto, and the matter chanced to fall out thus: Within two days after, we went through the City to demand mens charities, where it had rained much the night before, and because likewise it rained sore that day, my Master went praying under certain Portals that are there, where it was dry. When night did approach, the rain continuing still, he said unto me, *Lazaro*, this rain is without end, for the more that night draweth on, the more earnest it is: let us draw homeward to our lodging. But as it chanced,

ced, we had between us and home,
a great wide Gutter which the rain
had made ; wherefore I said, Uncle,
this Gutter is very broad and swift,
so that we shall have much ado to
pass : notwithstanding I have now
espied one narrow place, where we
may well leap over dryfoot. He
thought verily then, that I had given
him good and friendly counsel, and
therefore said, my good Boy, now I
perceive you are wise, I must needs
love thee: therefore I pray thee lead
me to the narrowest place, where I
may best escape, for now in Winter
it is not good to take water, especi-
ally to go wet-shod. O how glad
I was then to see the time which
long before I had wished for, where-
fore without delay, I brought him
from underneath the Portals, and
lead him right against a great Pillar
of stone which stood in the Market-
place, and then said, Uncle, this is

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the very narrowest place of all the Gutter.

Then straightways, by reason of the great Rain that fell upon him, and also because of his great hast to be under covert, & cheifly, for that God himself had at that time so blinded his understanding, to give me good time of revengement, he gave full credit to my words, and said, *Lazarus*, let me see now how thou canst set me where I must take my jump, and then leap thou over on Gods name: I did so, for when I had taught him his place, I leaped as far as I could, and took standing behind the Post, as one that had watched the re-encounter of a Bull: and then I said, now Uncle leap boldly as far as you can possibly, for bise you may chance wet your self. I had not so soon said the word, but that incontinently the poor blind man was ready to take his race, returning

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turning a pace or two back from the standing, and so with great force took his leap, throwing forward his body like a Buck, that at the last his head took such a monstrous blow against the cruel stony Pillar, that his head sounded withal, as it had been a Leather Bottle, whereupon he fell back with his cloven Pate, half dead : then gave I a leap and said, how now Uncle, could you smell the Sawfedge so well, and why not the Pillar I pray you ? prove now a little what you can do.

So I left him there, between the hands of many men that came in all hast to help him ; and took my ready way straight towards the Town-gate, with no slow pace, and then trotted so fast forward, that before night I arrived at *Tortois*. After that time I never understood, nor yet sought to know what God Almighty did with him.

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*How Lazaro placed himself with a
Preist, and what thing happened
to him in his service.*

THe next day after, doubting of
mine own safety there, I de-
parted thence and went to a Village
which is called *Mekeda*, where I met
for my sins, with a Preist, who as
soon as he espied how that I de-
manded A'mes, did enquire whether
I could help to Masse: I answered,
saying, yea Sir, that I can, as truth it
was: for although the blind man
had used me scarce well, he taught
me to do a thousand feats, whereof
this was one. The Priest received
me for his own: so I escaped then
from the Thunder, and came into
the Tempest, yea, and God knoweth,
how from evil to ten times worse;
for the Blind Man was in compari-
son of this Master, a great *Alexan-
der*. Howbeit, he was so covetous a
nig-

The Spaniards Life.

nigard, as heretofore I have rehearsed. All the misery in the world, was inclosed within this wretched Priest; for he had always a great old Coffer, wherein he continually locked with a Key which did hang at the point of his Coat, all the Bread that came from the Church at offerings, forgetting at no time to leave the same unlocked, being his only store-house and buttery. For about all the house a man might discern nothing that could be eaten, neither Bacon hung in the Chimney, nor Cheeses laid upon Shelves, nor yet broken bread in some odd corner, as commonly in other houses one should find, which things, so that I might only have seen and not tasted, the sight would have comforted me much. All the provision he had, was a Rope of Onions. in a high Garret, kept also under a sure lock and key: my allowance was only an Onion for every four days. And when I

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Should come for the key to take my
 due, if there were any stranger by,
 he would thrust his hand into his
 bosome, and with much modesty
 would say, take the key, see it be
 immediately delivered me again,
 thou doest nothing but cram up
 meat. So that he that had heard him,
 would have judged there had been
 under the custody of that key, all
 the confectures of *Valentia*. But for
 any thing that was there, beside the
 Ropes of Onions that hung on a nail,
 the Devil himself might have had
 part, and of them he kept such
 strict account, that if I had taken
 at any time more than my Ordina-
 ry, I should dearly have bought it.
 After that I had continued a
 while with him, I was ready every
 hour to fall down dead for hunger.
 His use was, to dine and sup with as
 much flesh as mounted to the value
 of five Blanks, whereof I was sure
 never to taste, unless it were of the
 Broth;

A Blank
 the 1
 part of an
 English
 peny.
 The cu-
 stome is
 there upon
 Saturday
 to eat the
 heads, the
 feet, and
 bowels of
 all beasts
 wit his
 licence.

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Broth, which sometimes he would
friendly part between us, and so
for bread, I would to God I might
have had half as much as was suffici-
ent. Upon Saturdays as the custom
was in that City, he would send me
for a Sheeps-head that should cost
three Marevedies, whereof when it ^{Two blanks}
was sod, he would eat both the eyes ^{a Mareve-}
the tongue, and the brain, yea and all
the flesh on both the cheek bones :
Then, reaching me the platter with
a few naked bones, wou'd say, take
down this to thee, and rejoyce, see-
ing that thou hast the world at will;
I am sure the Pope himself hath now
no better life than thou hast : then
would I answer him, with low
voice, God send thee always the
like, I had not dwelt with him three
weeks, but I was so lean that my
legs were scarce able to bear me :
the hunger was so great which I su-
stained, that I never thought to e-
scape death, unless that Gods help
and

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and mine own industry, would find some remedy to save my life. And for to use my accustomed subtilty, there was not wherewithal, seeing that there was nothing there to give assault unto: yea, although there had been, I might never have been able to deceive him, as I had done the poor Blind Man, upon whom I pray God take mercy, if he be dead with his last blow. For howbeit he was crafty, yet wanting his precious sight, I was sure he could never see what I hourly did. But there was never man that had quicker eyesight than this Preist. For at offering time, the silver was not so soon faine into the Bason, but that streight he had it registred, having always one eye to my hand, and another to the people: and his eyes would so roll in his head, as if they had been of Quick-silver. As soon as offering was done, he would take the Bason out of my hands, and lay it upon the Altar, so
that

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that I was never able to deceive him of one Blank.

And whiles I continued with him, (or to say better) whiles that I consumed my self in this miserable service, he never sent me to the Tavern for so much as the value of a Blank in Wine, but that small quantity which he had offered on the Sunday, he kept always in his Coffer so sparingly, that it would last him all the week over. And to hide his covetousness, he would sometimes say unto me, my Boy, all Preists ought to be sober in eating and drinking, and therefore I dare not break order as many other do. Now you shall see how the Miser lied falsely therein, for at Burials and Dirges, where he had meat at other mens charges, he would eat like a Woolef, more than four men, and drink as it were a Sainter: and because his Office was always to say Dirge, at such times (God forgive me) I was always an enemy to hu-

A Sainter,
a kind of
drunken
Prophets
in Spain
which take
upon them
the hea-
ling of mad
dogs.]

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humane nature, & only, because that then we should fare wel, & have meat at liberty, I wished & prayed God that he would every day call up one to Heaven. When we went to minister the Sacrament to such as were sick, my Mr. would desire those that were there, to pray for the sick man; surely I was never one of the last that prayed, desiring God with all my heart, not that he would do to the patient according to his will (as others prayed) but that he would dispatch him out of the World: and when any of them escaped death, I was ready (God forgive me) to wish him at the Devil, & whosoever dyed, was sure to have of me many blessings, & prayers for his soul. I dwelt with this Master about 6 months, & in that time there dyed only 20 persons, which I certainly flew, for at the least, the earnest request of my prayers was cause of their death: for God the Father perceiving the raging hunger which I continually sustained, joyced (as

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I think) to slay them, to save my life thereby, considering that otherwise my disease could not be remedied, for I was never at ease but when we had burials: The day that there was none, my teeth should have no work, my heart would faint, because that I had been used sometimes to have my belly filled. At such times I found ease in nothing but in death, which then I wished, as well for my self, as I had done before for the sick men. I determined oftentimes to depart from that miserable Master, yet fearing so to do, for two causes; first, because I durst not trust my legs, which by hunger were brought to great weakness; secondly, considering with my self, saying, I have had two Masters, with the first I dyed for hunger, whom when I had forsaken, I chanced upon this other, which with the very same disease hath almost brought me to my grave: therefore I made account, that if I should forsake the second, and meet with a

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third that were worse than these two, then there were no remedy but plain death. Wherefore I never durst depart from him, being assured to find all estates worse and worse, knowing that to descend another degree, *Lazaro* should be soon forgotten, being once rid out of this world.

And being in such affliction (God of his grace deliver every faithful Christian from the like) not knowing how to counsel my self, my misery daily increasing, upon a day, when by chance my wretched master had gone abroad, there arrived by chance to the door a Tinker, which I believe was an Angel disguised, sent from God, who demanded for work: I answered softly, thou hast enough to amend in me, and I believe more than thou canst do. But as it was no time then to delay the matter (by divine inspiration) I said unto him, Uncle, I have
lost

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lost the Key of this Coffer, I fear that my master will beat me; for Gods sake look amongst your Keys if there be any that will open it, I will consider your pains: the heavenly Tinker began to assay, now one Key, now another, of this great bunch, and I helped him with my prayers, so that immediately before I was aware, he opened it: whereof I was so glad, that me thought I did see in figure (as they say) the face of God, when I beheld the bread within it: and when he had done all, I said unto him, I have no money, but take this for my payment: so he took one of the fairest loaves, and after he had delivered me the Key, he departed right-well pleased, and I as well content as he.

At that time I touched nothing, partly, because I perceived my self to be the Lord of such Treasure, that by reason of that Key, hunger durst never again approach me. Incontinently

nently after, who cometh in, but my unhappy master, and as God would, he never took heed of the loaf, which the heavenly Tinker had borrowed.

The next day after, as soon as he went abroad, I began to open my Paradiſe of Bread, & what between my hands and my teeth, with the twinkling of an eye I made a loaf invisible, forgetting in no wiſe to lock the Cheſt again: then I began cheerfully to ſweep the houſe, judging that by ſuch remedy I might eaſe my ſorrowful life. So I paſſed that day and the next with much mirth. But my contrary fortune went about to hinder me to enjoy ſuch pleaſure long, for the third day juſt, a tertian Ague came upon me, in perceiving him that had ſlain me with hunger, at an undue hour, over the Cheſt, turning and rolling, accounting and reckoning his Bread.

I diſſemble d the matter, as I had

not

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not perceived him, and in my secret prayer and devotion, I prayed St. *John* to blind him. And after that he had been a good while casting his account upon his fingers, he said unto me, if it were not that this Coffer is so sure, I would say that some of my bread hath been taken away, but from henceforth I will keep good account of it, there is now nine loaves left besides a broken piece: then said I with low voice, nine evils God send unto thee. It seemed unto me with that which he had said, my heart to be pierced through with an arrow, and my stomack began to rive for hunger, perceiving how I was put to my former dyer. He then departed out, and I opened the said Coffer to comfort my self a little, and beholding the bread, which I durst not touch, but worshipping it, I beheld and counted it over, to see if the wretch had overreckoned himself: but I found his

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account more just, than I would have wished it by the one half: the most that I could do, was to give it a thousand kisses, and to cut a little delicately of that place where it was cut before: and with that I passed over that day, yet not so merrily as I did the other. But now because two or three days before I had bread at will, the appetite in my stomach did increase in such sort, that I was almost dead for hunger: wherefore being alone, I did nothing but open and lock again the Coffer, beholding always that bread as a god. And God himself which succoureth those that are afflicted, seeing me in such necessity, brought a little remedy unto my memory, which was that I remembered with my self this Coffer to be old and broken in many places, and although the holes were little, yet might it be thought that Mice had entred therein to damage the bread. And to take out a whole
Loaf,

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Loaf, the wretch would soon espy the fault, yet this may be better born withal : so then I began to claw the bread with my nails, upon a simple Napkin that was there, taking one Loaf and leaving another, so that of every third or fourth, I would be sure to take some Crums, and even as if they were Confects, I did swallow the same, to comfort my stomach. When he should come to dinner, opening his Chest, and espying incontinently the hurt, he did judge that Rats had done the spoil, for I had so counterfeited their gnawing, that any man would have thought the same : wherefore he sought all corners of the Chest, and at the last he espyed certain holes where he suspected they had entred: whereupon he called me in all hast, saying ; *Lazaro*, see here what persecution hath been done this night upon our Bread. I began to marvel, demanding what it should be : what

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should it be, said he, but Rats, which leave nothing whole? we went then to dinner, and as God would, I had better allowance than I was wont; for with his knife, he pared away all that, which he thought the Mice had touched, saying, Take, eat this my Boy, Mice are clean.

I chanced that day to fare better, for he augmented my allowance with that which I had made, by the travel of my hands, or to say truth, of my nails. We ended our dinner for all that, somewhat too soon, yet there came another plunge upon me, perceiving how the Priest was earnest, in pulling nails out of the wall, and seeking little boards, to stop the holes again: wherefore I said to my self (Lord God) unto how many perils and calamities of Fortune, are humane Creatures subject? How short a time do the pleasures of our troublesome life last? Lo where I am now, which trusted by this my poor

re-

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remedy, to ease my misery, being in
best hope of good adventure, my e-
vil luck should not consent, but o-
pened the sight of my covetous Ma-
sters understanding, causing him to
have more subtil wit than he had
given him by nature, although such
wretches are commonly subtil e-
nough, in his yet on belure, & so
When he had dammed up the
holes, I thought his Chest should be
shut to my comfort, and opened to
my pain, and therefore I never left
lamenting, until that the Icurious
Carpentee with his company of
boards, had ended his work of nail-
ing and when he had done, said: Now
ye traitorly Mice, you must change
purpose, for there is no more profit
for you in this house. As soon as ever
he went abroad, I went to view his
work, & I perceived that he had not
left in his old Chest one hole unstop-
ed, not so much as a place for a flie
to get in: notwithstanding, without

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of gain, I opened the Chest with my unprofitable key, and there visited two loaves begun, which he had thought the Mice had carved, and from them once again, I scraped a little quantity, touching them lightly, like a nimble Master of Defence, for Necessity, at that time my Mistress, caused me day and night to imagine, how I might live and seek remedy for my sore, whereunto hunger taught me the way, which commonly maketh men have ready wits. I began then to study about my affairs, seeking means to draw some Commodity out of the said covetous Coffer: perceiving one night, that my Master slept soundly (or at least made me believe so) by his snoring and blowing, I rose on my feet, and as I had taken order the day before, what should be done that night, I had left an old knife, which was cast about the house in a place where it might be found at need,

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need, and went to that happy Coffer: and where it seemed to have least defence, I gave the assault with my rusty knife, which served my turn well for a Wumble: but the Chest, by reason of good years, being weak without strength, very soft and tender; did straightways render and consent, that I should make, for my commodity, a good hole in the side of it; and that done, opening the wounded Chest, and knowing every loaf severally by the touch, I did as I had done before, and by that means being somewhat comforted, having locked the Chest again, I returned: to my Pallet, whereupon I slept little (and as I think) mine evil supper was cause of that; for otherwise at that time of the night the King of *Spain* his cares could never break me of my sleep.

On the morning, the Priest my Master, perceiving the hurt which was done, as well to the bread, as to

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the Coffer, began to curse the Mice, saying ; What meaneth this ? there was never Mousse wont to go here before now: and certainly his words were true ; for if any house in the whole Kingdom might be privileged from Mice, it might be his, for Mice are never wont to dwell, where no parings of meat do fall. But now he began again to seek nails about the Walls, and little boards, to make defence against the traiterous Mice: but as soon as night came, that he went to his rest, I rose up with my tools ; and looked what he stopped in the day time, I broke up again in the night : Finally, the one and the other of us took such pain, that this proverb was fulfilled, When one door is shut, the other openeth : At the last, we seemed to have *Penelopes* web in hand, whatsoever he wrought in the day, I undid again in the night, in so much, that we brought the poor Coffer to
such

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such estate, that whosoever would properly talk of it, might compare it to an old Boat or Brigantine, for that number of old nails, that was driven into each side of it. When he saw his remedy prevailed not, he said, This Coffer is so old, and so weak, that it is no longer able to defend our victuals from vermine, it is now at that point, that if I meddle any more with it, the more it will decay, and so at length be able to do us no service at all, and peradventure, evil fortune will cause me spend two or three Shillings to buy another: the best remedy that I can find, seeing this doth not prevail, is to set up a Trap within it, to take these cruel Rats: whereupon, he went immediately, and borrowed one of his Neighbours, which he had continually bent within the Coffer; with a bait of Cheese-paring, which was laid only for my comfort and ease, for although I could well have eaten

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eaten my bread alone, without the help of any thing else, to cause my appetite, yet the Cheese-paring, which I would pull out of the Trap, gave me trim taste with my Mouse-eaten bread.

But when he should perceive the bread so spoiled with Rats, and the Cheese eaten, and the Rat that did the deed not taken, then would he wish the Trap at the Devil, demanding of his Neighbours what it might be, that the Cheese should be eaten, and the Rat not taken, yea, and the Trap fallen? The Neighbors would answer, that it was no Rat that did that harm, for at one time or other she had been taken.

Snakes
wont there
to resort
much i.
to mens
houses for
food.

And amongst the rest one said, I do remember that a Snake was wont to haunt your house, and by all reason it is she that hath done the deed; for she being long, might easily eat the Cheese and although the Trap did fall, yet because her body

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Entred not in all the night well and easily get out and scape.

This Neighbours saying did satisfy the whole company, and especially my Master, which from that time forward never slept one night soundly, for when he had heard the least noise amongst the Wood, he would think that it was the Snake gnawing the Coffer, wherefore he would straight be up with a Cudgel, which since he entred into such suspicion was always ready at his beds-head, wherewith he would beat the poor Coffer so hard, to feat the Snake, that he waked all the Neighbours with the noise.

And as for me, I never slept, for oftentimes in the night, he would turn me and my Pallet over and over, thinking that the Snake had gotten thither into my bed, or into my apparel; for he was informed, that those beasts oftentimes seeking heat, have come into Childrens Cradles,

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dles, and bitten them to death: and I would always make as though I slept; then he would in the morning lay unto me: O *Lazaro*, hast thou heard no noise this night, I did pursue the Snake, and I was afraid she had gotten into thy bed, for they are cold, and therefore seek heat. Then answered I, I pray God she hath not bitten me; I fear Snakes as the Devil.

He continued in such fearful phantasie, that he never slept; so that I being the Snake, durst never approach the Coffer, But only in the day time, whiles he was at Church, or abroad in the Town, then would I make my assault; whereof when he had knowledge, perceiving that he was not able to find any further remedy, would every night (as I have told you) be raging mad. All that I feared then was, that he with his diligence would meet with my privy key, which I had hid under the bed-

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bed-straw : but for more surety, at night time, I would always keep it in my mouth; for when that I dwelt with the blind man, I had brought my mouth to such use, by conveying money unto it, that it served me often for a purpose. I can well remember, when sometimes I have had in it fourteen or fifteen Deneirs, and not hindred my eating, otherwise I had never been master of a Deneir, but that the cursed blind man would have found it out, not leaving one seam or wrinkle of my coat unsought.

Therefore as I tell you, I did every night put the key in my mouth for a safegard, and by that means I slept soundly, not fearing that he should find it. Notwithstanding, when that the evil hour could not be escaped, my diligence was all but vain : it pleased my fatal destiny (or to say truth) my sins, that upon a night when I was a sleep, the
key

The Spaniards Life.

key happened so to turn in my mouth, being wide open in such sort, that my breath coming forth through the hole of the key, which was hollow, made such loud whistling, (as evil fortune would) that my careful master heard it, who thought certainly that it had been the hissing of the Snake, as surely it might be like he rose up very softly, holding his Cudgel fast, and by the noise of the hissing came by little and little straight to me, without making any noise, to the intent the Snake should not hear him. When he was near me, he thought certainly that the Snake was there in the straw, wherefore he lifted up his Cudgel to kill her, and with all his strength he discharged upon my Head such a cruel blow, that he wounded me to death. Whereupon he knowing that he had stricken me, besike by the groaning that I made after the receipt of the blow, suspecting

ing

The Spaniards Life.

ing what had hapned, cryed out to awake me, but as soon as he touched me with his hands, he felt abundance of bloud issue out of my head: wherefore considering what hurt he had done me, he went in hast for a Candle, and returning with it in his hand, found me groaning & gasping with my key in my mouth, which I never let go, being half out, even as it was when it made such hissing, whereat the killer of Snakes marvelled, especially when he beheld the key, which he took out of my mouth, and viewing it, he perceived what it was, for in workmanship it differeth nothing from his. But for more fury he went streight to prove it, and so then espyed the whole deceit. God knoweth then how he bragged, that he had taken the Rat and the Snake that had made him such VVar, and that so destroyed his bread: what hapned the three days following, I am not able

The Spaniards Life.

able to tell, for I was as it were in a Whales belly, but only this that I have told you : which I had heard my Master report, after that I was returned to my self, for he declared the whole matter to as many as came in and out.

The third day after, I began to recover, marvelling much, when I perceived my self being in my straw, my head full of Plaisters, Oyles, and Oyntments, and being thereat amazed, I said, what meaneth this ? The Priest then answered, the meaning of this is, that I had chased away the Rat and the Snake that hath done me such hurt : then calling to mind my affairs, I suspected my hurt, and the cause thereof ; then came there in an old woman, with certain of the Neighbours, to undo the clouts about my head, and to dress my wounds ; and being glad to see me recovered, said, there is no danger now in him, seeing that he hath
his

The Spaniards Life.

his senses; they began then to recite my afflictions, they laughing and I weeping. After all this, they gave me meat, I being almost dead for hunger. Much ado they had to recover me, but by little and little I waxed strong, and at 15. days end, I rose up and was out of danger, yet not without hunger, howbeit half healed. The next day after that I rose, my Master took me by the hand, and brought me out at the door, and leaving me in the street, said unto me: *Lazaro*, from this day forth, thou shalt be at thine own liberty, and not under my subjection, the Lord be with thee: go seek thee a Master, I have no need of such a diligent Servant, it is not possible but that thou hast been Servant to some blind man. And therewith blessing himself from me, as though I had been possessed with some e-

The Spaniards Life.

vil Spirit, he getteth him in and
locketh fast his door.

*How Lazaro placeth himself to serve
a Squire, and what happened to
him in his Service.*

BY this means I was forced to
help my self being weak, and
shortly after, I came by help of good
people, to this noble City of Toledo,
where (I thank God) my wound
cloied up. As long as I was sick, e-
very man gave me his charity, but
after that I was once whole, every
man would say, Thou vagabond and
loiterer, why dost thou not seek a
Master? Then I murmuring with
my self, wou'd say, and where the
Devil shall I find him, unless God,
as he made the world, make me one?
But now I demanding almes from
door to door for Gods sake, I found
little remedy, for charity had then
ascended up to Heaven.

At

The Spaniards Life.

At the last God caused me to meet with a Squire, which walked thorow the street, in very sumptuous apparel, and cleanly, his pace in going, well measured after good order. He beheld me, and I him, and he said unto me: Boy, dost thou want a Master? I answered, I would faine have a good Master, Sir. Then follow me, said he: God hath sent thee good fortune to meet with me, thou hast prayed well this day. I thank God for that which I had heard him say, and for that he seemed by his behaviour and countenance to be even he, that I had so much longed for. I met with this third Master betime in the morning, and he led me after him through the most part of the City: we passed through the Market place, where there was sold bread, and other provision: I looked when he would have loaden me there with meat; for it was then, that every man provided & brought

The Spaniards Life.

Gentlemen
use to buy
their me t
in market
themselves.
There is
not such
provision
of meat in
Spain as in
Engl nd.

things necessary for their dinner. But
with comely and large pace he went
by, and left that place behind him :
then I said to my self, peradventure
he doth not see here that which doth
content him, he will buy in another
place : We walked so long that the
Clock struck eleven, then went he
to the chief Church, and I after him,
where I saw him most devoutly hear
Service : when all was ended, and
the people departed, he came out of
the Church, and marched leisurely
down a street : and as for me, I went
joyfully, the best content in the
world, perceiving how that we did
not stay to seek our dinner, imagi-
ning that this my new Master had
been some great personage, and that
he had his house provided before-
hand, that we should find dinner
ready, yea such as I desired, and as I
had need of. At that time the Clock
strooke one afternoon, when we arri-
ved at a house before the which my
Ma-

The Spaniards Life.

Master had staid, *I* with him ; then he throwing his Cloak over his left shoulder very cruelly, drew out a key out of my sleeve to open his doore : we then entred in, the entrance whereof was so dark and unhandsome, that it might fear any man living to enter in ; howbeit, there was within it a pretty little Court, and reasonable Chambers : and when we were within : he putteth off his Cloak, demanding me whether my hands were clean : we shook it, and then doubled it handsomely, and after he had blown cleanly the dust away from an old bench that was there, he laid it up : that being done, he sate him down, demanding of me at large what Country man *I* was, and how *I* came to the City : *I* gave him a larger account than *I* was willing : for *I* thought it a more convenient time to command me to lay the cloth and to take out portage, than to make such inquiries :

The Spaniards Life.

ries: yet for all that, bringing forth the best lies I could fram for myself, I made him account what I was, reckoning all the goodness that was in my personage, leaving apart all that which I thought was not to be rehearsed in that place: when I had declared all, he stayed a while, and by that time I did see an evil sign: for it was almost two a clock, and yet he was no readier to dine than he that had been dead. I marvelled moreover when I perceived that he had locked his door with his key, and that I could not hear any living Creature stir, neither above nor beneath: all that ever I did see was the naked Walls, nor so much as a Chair or Stool, nor a Table, nor yet a Coffer, as the other man had: finally you would have said, it had been a House not inhabited.

A while after, he demanded of me whether I had dined: I answered saying, no Sir, for it was not eight a clock

The Spaniards Life.

clock when I met with your master-
ship this morning : (then said he) as
early as it was, I had broken my fast,
and whensoever, I break my fast in
the morning, I never eat again until
it be night, therefore pass thou over
the time as well as thou canst, and
we will make amends at supper :
your Worship may well think that
when I heard these words, I was
ready to fall down dead, not so much
for hunger, as for plainly perceiving,
that then fortune was altogether
mine enemy. Then began my sor-
rows to appear unto me again, and I
to lament my misfortune: then came
there to my mind, the considerati-
on that I made when I was about to
depart from the Priest, weighing
with my self, that although he was
most wretched and miserable, yet
peradventure I might meet with a
worse : finally, I lamented and wept
my troublesome life that was past,
and my death that did approach :

The Spaniards Life.

and yer for all this I dissembled the matter as well as I could, and said unto him, Sir, I thank God, I am a Boy that doth not greatly care for eating and drinking, for I may well compare with any of my age for sobriety and measure in eating, and so I have been always esteemed of as many Masters as I have served: he then answered saying, it is a vertue to live soberly, therefore I commend thee much, Hogs fill themselves, and wise men eat discreetly what is only sufficient for them.

I now understand you well Sir, said I to my self, evil luck light upon such vertue and goodness as these my Masters do find in hunger. Immediately after all this, I conveyed my self behind the door, where I drew certain pieces of bread out of my bosome, which were left of that I had received for Gods sake two days before. But he perceiving me said, come hither Boy, what doest thou

The Spaniards Life.

thou eat? *I* came unto him, and did shew the bread, whereof he took a piece, which of two or three was the best and the biggest, saying, By my soul methinks this bread is good and savory: yea many Sir, at this time especially, said *I*: It is so indeed said he, but where hadst thou it? was it moulded with clean hands? That *I* know not said *I*, howbeit *I* find it good. *I* pray God it be clean, said the poor Gentleman: and with that putting his hand to his mouth, devoured quickly all that *I* had given him: and somewhat before we had ended, he said, by God this bread hath a good taste, how savory it is. And as for me then, *I* perceived upon which foot he halted, *I* made haste to eat, perceived him to be so discomposed, that if he had made an end before me, *I* thought he would gently have offered to help me: therefore we ended both at one time in good order. He began then with his hand

to

The Spaniards Life.

In Spain
many drink
nothing
but water,
and some
that may
have wine,
but this
Squire
drank it
for want
of better.

to brush away a few crumbs, which
had fallen upon his breast, and after
that entered into a Chamber that was
there, and thence brought forth an
old pot broken-mouthed, and drank
well, and then he offered me the pot.
But I to seem sober and modest, said
Sir, I drink no wine : it is water said
he, thou maist well drink of it : then
I took the pot and drank not much,
for it was not thirst, but hunger that
troubled me. We passed the time
so until that it was night, reasoning
of sundry matters which he de-
manded of me, whereunto I an-
swered as well as I could. Then we
entered into the Chamber from
whence he had brought forth his
drinking pot, he saying : Boy, go to
the other side, & mark how we make
this Bed, that thou maist know how
to make it from henceforth. I went
to the one side and he to the other,
and made the poor Bed, which was
an easie matter to do, for it was thus
as

The Spaniards Life.

as I will tell you: a sheeps hurdle laid overthwart two tressles, a silly rotten hard mattress, and upon that his bed-clothes, which by reason of seldom washing could not be discerned in colour from the mattress, the which had not half so much Wooll as need required: we turned it to make it soft, but that was impossible to do; for very hard it is for a man to make an hard thing soft, and the devil a thing was within the cruel mattress at all; for when it was spread upon the hurdle of big sticks, every stick appeared thorow, even as like as could be, to the ribs of a carion lean Hogg: we spread upon the hungry miserable mattress, a Coverlet suteable to the rest of the stuffe; what stuffe it was of, I cannot well devise: before that we had made the beds it was night, and he said: *Lazaro*, it is now late, and from hence to the market place where provision of meat is sold, it is

The Spaniards Life.

The streets are narrow and dark, few lanterns are hung out. a long way, and besides that, ruffians and theeves do meet men every night to spoil them of their Clokes, and Caps in the dark, therefore let us pass over this night as well as we may. too morrow God will provide better for us. I am not provided of meat, because I have been hitherto alone without a Servant, and I have always taken my meals in the City, but from henceforth we will keep a new order. Sir, said I, take no care for me, I can pass over one night, and more if need be, without meat; And that will be cause that thou shalt live longer, said he, for as wise men affirm, There is nothing that can make a man live longer, than to eat a little. If that be true said I to my self, I shall never dye; for I have always been constrained to keep that rule, and I think I am fortun'd to observe it as long as I live.

After all this he went to bed, making his hose & his doublet his bolster,

The Spaniards Life:

ster, and causing me to lye at his feet,
where I never slept wink; for the
hard Hurdle never left galling my
naked bones, which by hunger & sor-
row together, had not left on them,
nor yet on all my body besides, an
uncunce of flesh: & as I chanced to eat
nothing that day, my brain was so
light that I could never take rest.
Wherefore (God forgive me) I curs-
ed my self and my fortune a thou-
sand times, and that which was
worse than all this, I never durst
change sides for fear of waking him:
Wherefore I desired death.

The next morning when he arose,
he began to shake, and to make clean
his hose, and doublet, and his Gloke;
I was his brush, so he arraid himself
at leasure: I gave him then water
for his hands, and when he had made
use of his Combe, he taketh his
Sword and kisseth the Pommell, and
as he was putting it to his girdle, said
unto me: My Boy, if thou knewest
what

The Spaniards Life.

what a blade this is, thou wouldst marvel; there is no gold that can buy it of me, for of as many as *Antonid* made, he could never give such temper to any, as he gave this: then drawing it out of the Scabbard, he tasted the edge with his fingers, saying: Seest thou it? I dare undertake to cut asunder with it a whole fleece of Wooll: I answered him softly to my self, saying, and I with my teeth, (though they be not of such hard mettall) a loaf of bread weighing four pound.

Then up went the Sword again, hanging it at his girdle. And after all this, he marched out into the street, with a leasurely well measured pace, holding his body straight, making therewith, & with his head, a very good countenance, casting the end of his Cloak sometimes upon his shoulder, and otherwhiles under his arm, with his right hand always on his side: and as he was going forth, said

The Spaniards Life.

said, *Lazaro*, look well about the house, while I do go and hear service, make the bed, and then fetch some water here at the River beneath, lock the door lest any body rob us, and lay the Key underneath the threshold, that I may come in: he went up the street with such comely gesture and countenance: that he that had not known him, would have judged him to have been near kinsman unto the high Constable of *Spain*, or at the least his chief Chamberlain.

I remained then alone, saying to my self, Blessed art thou, O God, which sendest the sickness, & givest the remedy; who would think that I should think my Lord and Master, with such gesture and countenance, but that he had supped well yesternight, yea, and that he had slept in a good bed? And although it be now early, who would think, but that he had broken his fast well? Great are thy

The Spaniards Life.

thy secret doings, O Lord, and all people are ignorant of them ! might not his good disposition, his reasonable Cloak and Coat deceive any man? Who would distrust, that such a noble Gentleman had eaten nothing all yesterday but one piece of bread, which his Servant *Lazaro* had kept in the Chest of his bosom a day and a night, so that it could not be (to say the truth) very clean? Who would suspect, that he had dryed this morning, his face and his hands upon the Skirts of his Coat, for want of a Towell? I am certain no man would judge it in him: O Lord, how many are there in the World, that are in such bravery, as this my Master is in, which do suffer more for a little vain glorious sake, than they would do for the love of thee? I stood in the door so long, remembering all those things, that my Master passed thorow a long and narrow street, then I went in, and with-

The Sponiards Life.

In a minute of an hour I visited the whole house above and beneath, without staying, or finding whereat to stay.

When I had made the unlucky bed, I took my pot and went straight to the River, and being ready to take up my water, I might perceive my Master in a Garden over the water, in great talk with two comely Women, which by their countenance seemed to be some of them, whereof in *Toledo* a number are usually found: and many of them take a use of going a broad early in the morning in the Summer-time, to take the air in those Gardens, and to break their fast without provision of their own, under trees and shadowes near that pleasant River, trusting to find out some that would bestow charges upon them, especially such as they had accustomed thereto, such lusty young souldiers of the City as delighted in such pastime. He was

G

(as

The Spaniards Life.

(as I mean to tell you) between these Women, devising and counterfeiting all kind of bravery, reciting more pleasant and sweet words than ever *Ovid* wrote: But when they perceived, that their beauty had vanquished him clean, and that he was left without shame, they demanded of him their break-fast, and he therefore to have the accustomed payment.

Whereupon, he being as cold in the purse, as he was hot in the stomach fel in such a trance, that he lost all the colour in his face: his tongue not able to talk, was faine to alledge vain excuses. But they, which in their science were well instructed, when they perceived his infirmity, they gave him over for such a one as he was indeed. All this while I was breaking my fast with stalks of *Coleworts*, and when I had done, like a diligent Servant, not seen of my Master, returned home, meaning to sweep

The Spaniards Life.

sweep some part of the House that had most need : but I could not find wherewithal to do the deed. Wherefore not knowing what to do, I began to muse wherein I should occupy my self ; and after study, I determined to tarry until noon, that my Master came, for peradventure he would bring something with him for us to eat : wherefore I tarried his coming, yet all for nothing; for it was now two a clock, and he not yet come, but because hunger oppressed me sore, I came out and locked the door, laying the key where he had commanded, with a low and sorrowful voyce, my hands thrust into my bosom. I began to return to my former practice, insomuch that having God before mine eyes, and my tongue, in his name, I fell to beg bread from door to door, and from house to house, where I thought best to speed ; having learned this Trade in my sucking years, I mean with

The Spaniards Life.

the blind Master, I became such a Schollar, that although in that City there was small charity, and the year was not abundant, yet notwithstanding I did put off my affairs in such good order, that before the Clock struck four, I had laid a pound of bread in my belly, and twice as much in my bosom and sleeves. I returned then home-ward, and in my way went thorow the streets, where they sold tripes, where I demanded charity of a Woman that was there, she gave me a piece of neats foot and a few sodden tripes.

When I came home, my courteous Master was within, having folded his cloak and laid it up, walking up and down the Court: & as soon as he did see me, he came towards me, wherefore I feared he would have beaten me, because I had tarried so long, but it was not Gods will.

The first thing he demanded of me, was, where I had been? I answered, Sir, I was here untill it was

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two a clock, and when I perceived that your Mastership came not, I went forth into the City, to recommend my self to good people, which have given me thus much for Gods sake, and so shewed him the Tripes, which I kept in the skirt of my coat; whereat he made no angry countenances but said, I have tarried for thee to dinner, and because I could not see thee come, I dined alone; as for thee thou hast done like an honest boy, for it is better to beg than to steal, as God help me I am of that opinion: one thing onely I will desire thee to do, that thou wilt not let them know that thou dost dwell with me, nor that I am thy Master: For that toucheth mine honour, and I do not doubt, but that will be kept secret, for very few did know me in this City, I would to God I had never come to it.

Of that matter, Sir, take you no care, said I; for no man will ask me

The Spaniards Life.

that question, I need not therefore make such account to any of them. But why dost thou not fall now to thy Viſuals poor ſoul, if it be Gods will we will ſoon be out of this miſery : thou ſhalt underſtand that ſithence I came in hither, I had never good hour, this houſe is ſurely built in an unhappy place, and certainly ſome houſes are ſo unlucky, that look whoſoever doth dwell within them, he ſhall be ſure to have evil fortune.

But I promiſe thee, that as ſoon as the month is ended, I will not dwell here, (no though they would give it me Rent-free) I fell down then, and becauſe he ſhould not think me a covetous glutton, I drew out my Viſuals, and there began to ſup honeſtly, biting my Tripes with my bread handſomly, beholding diſſemblyngly my miſerable Maſter, which had his eye alwayes upon my ſkirt, being at that time my onely platter.

God

The Spaniards Life.

God take such compassion on me, as I did then upon him; for I had oftentimes endured, yea, and daily felt that sorrow, which I knew tormented him: wherefore I imagined with my self, how I might well invite him: but because he told me that he had dined, I was afraid lest he would refuse the banquet.

Finally, I wished that the poor man would have eased his pain, by help of mine, and that he would have eaten with me for company, as he had done the day before, especially because that when I had better Victuals, and more store, and moreover, that then my hunger was less: it pleased God to accomplish my desire and his together; for when I had begun my meat, as he walked he came near to me, saying *Lazaro*, I promise thee thou hast the best grace in eating, that ever I did see any man have; for there is no man that seeth thee eat, but by seeing

The Spaniards Life.

thee feed, shall have an appetite,
although they be not an hun-
gred.

Then would I say to my self, the
hunger which thou sustaineſt, cau-
ſeth thee to think mine ſo beautiful:
then I truſted I might help him, ſee-
ing that he had ſo helped himſelf,
and had opened me the way thereto:
wherefore ſaid unto him, Sir, the
good Toolles make the workman
good, this bread hath good taſte,
and this Neats Foot is ſo well fod,
and ſo cleanly dreſſed, that it is
able with the ſavour of it only, to
entice any man to eat of it.

What, is it a Neats foot? Yeſ Sir,
Now I promiſe thee it is the beſt
morſel in the World, there is no
Pheasant that I would like ſo well. I
pray you Sir, prove of it better, and
ſee how you like it. I delivered then
unto his Nails the Neats foot, with
two or three pieces of the whitest
bread that I had; whereupon he ſit-
teth

The Spaniards Life.

reth down by me, and there began
to eat like one that had great need,
gnawing every one of those little
bones better than any Greyhound
could have done for life, saying, This
is singular good meat: And I to my
self said, The sauce that thou eatest
withall is better.

He swore he had eaten it with as
good a stomach as if he had eaten
nothing all the day before: then I
with a low voice said, God send me
to live long as sure as that is true:
and having ended his victuals, he
commanded me to reach him the por-
of water, which I gave him, even as
full as I had brought it from the Ri-
ver, and it was a sign that thence
he wanted no water, that the residue
of his dinner was but small, we drank
both, and went to bed as the
night before, at that time well sa-
tisfied.

And now for to avoid long talk,
we continued after this sort eight or
nine

The Spaniards Life.

nine dayes: and the poor Gentleman went every day to brave it out in the street to content himself with his accustomed stately pace, and alwayes I poor *Lazaro* was faine to be his Purveyour: I oftentimes considered my disgraces, that escaping from evil Masters which I had, that used me evil, and seeking better, I happened to meet now with him, who not only did not maintain me, but whom I was faine to maintain, or else he to die: yet for all that, I loved him well, perceiving that he was able to do no more: yea, and I did pity him rather than hate him; for oftentimes with carrying him home therewith to passe the day, I felt grief my self. One morning the poor Gentleman rose up in his shirt, and went up to the top of the House, to ease himself; and in the mean season to be out of the suspicion, that I was in, I unfolded his Doublet and Hose, which were his Boulster, and there found

The Spaniards Life.

found a little Purse of Velvet, which had a hundred wrinkles in it, but the Devil a penny, nor yet any sign that there had been any there a long time before. Then did I say to my self, this man is poor, no man can give that which he hath not: but my covetous blind man, and my wretched Priest, unto whom God hath given so much goods, the one got with smooth hand, the other gained with his loose tongue, and yet they famished me continually: there was good reason why I should hate such People; so is there cause, why this mans case should be lamented. God knoweth that when I met with any of his estate, being of like gravity, pace, and countenance, how I pittied them, thinking that they did indure that which I did see him daily suffer, whom I had rather serve for all this poverty, than any of the other; for the causes abovenamed. I did like him well, but only that me thought
he

The Spaniards Life.

he was too presumptuous; where I often wished that seeing he so plainly perceived his own poverty, he would something have hid his fantastical pride. But as I think, it is a common usual rule amongst such as he, who though they have not a cross in the world, nor a Denier, the Cap must needs stand in his old place; but if God of his mercy do not order the matter, all such are like to die of that vile disease.

As I continued in such estate, sustaining the life that I have told you, my evil fortune which never ceased to pursue me would not yet suffer me to continue in that troublesome and shameful kind of life. For the matter happened thus: The Lords of the Council made Proclamation with sound of Trumpet, because that that year there was scarcity of Corn, all poor people that were strangers should forsake the City upon pain that he, which from thenceforth

The Spaniards Life.

forth should be taken, should be punished with stripes: and so executing the Law, within three dayes after the Proclamation, I saw a whole proceffion of poor folk whipped thorow the four principal streets, which sight did so fear me, that never after I durst venture to beg. Then might you have seen a strange diet we kept at home, and the great silence that was there, so that we were constrained to fast two or three dayes together without eating any morsel, or speaking a word: and as for me, the best shift I made, was amongst certain poor Women, which were Spinners and Cap-knitters, which saved my life, by reason of the acquaintance I had with them, being our near Neighbours: For of that meat they had I should have a little, wherewith I did not so lament my own case, as I did my poor Masters, which in eight dayes did not eat one morsel at the

The Spaniards Life.

the least we were so long at home without meat : but indeed, I know not whither he went , nor what he did eat abroad, yet notwithstanding, for all this you would see him come sometimes up the street with a body as large as any Grey-hounds of good race, and for to maintain his poor honour, he was wont to take a straw in his hand, whereof also there was want in our house , and standing without the door, would therewith pick those which had little need of picking, for any thing that had stuck in them with eating. Lamenting still the unluckiness of that House , he would say , it grieveth me, to see how all our sorrow cometh of this House; thou seest how uncomfortable and dark it is, and as long as we dwell here, we are like to be thus tormented , therefore I would to God the month were ended that we might depart out of it.

And as we continued in this afflicted

The Spaniards Life.

flicted and famishing persecution, Six pence
English
one day a Ryal entered into the
power of my Master, I know not
by what good luck and adventure,
wherewith he came home so blow-
ing, as if he had brought with him
the whole treasure of *Venice*, and so
with a merry and lively counte-
nance he giveth it to me, saying, take
here *Lazaro*, now God beginneth to
open his hand, and to smile upon us,
go quickly to the Market-Place, and
buy breads wine, and flesh, that we
may break the Devils envious eye:
and furthermore, because thou shalt
have good cause to rejoyce, thou
shalt understand, that I have hired
another House, therefore the month
once ended, we will no longer abide
in this miserable unlucky House,
curled be it, and he that laid the first
Tile on it, for in evill time did I
come in. By our Lord, said he, all
the time that I have been here I ne-
ver drank drop of Wine, nor a mor-
sell of flesh entred into my belly, nor
yet

The Spaniards Life.

yet have I had any rest in it, such is the sorrow and misery that belongeth to it; go thy wayes and make speed, and let us dine this day like Earls. Then I took my Ryal and my pot, and with all haste I began to go up the street, towards the Market place with joy and mirth. But what profiteth all this, now that I am born under such a Planet that I can never enjoy any pleasure long, without hindrance, (it appeareth so now) for as I went on my way, making my account how I should bestow my money upon that which should be most profitable and best, giving infinite thanks to God (that he had given my Master that money) upon a sudden I might see right before me a dead Coarse come down the street, accompanied with many Priests, and other people: I leaned to the Wall to give them place, and the Coarse went by; I might see a Woman, which belike was the dead mans wife

The Sponiards Life.

Wife, following the Biere, all in mourning weeds, accompanied with other Women, and she weeping and lamenting, said : O my Husband and my Lord, alas, whither do they carry you ? to the uncomfortable and sad House, to the dark and sorrowful House, to the House where they never eat nor drink ? When I had heard her speak these words, me thought Heaven and Earth had met, and I said, O unfortunate wretch that I am, they carry this dead Coarse to our House : wherefore I forsook my way, and brake in between the people, and running down the street as fast as ever I could, I got into the House, and when I had entred therein, I locked the door with all hast, calling out to my Master for help, and embracing him, I desired his aid to keep them out : whereof he was somewhat amazed, thinking it had been some other matter, said, what is the matter

H

Boy ?

The Spaniards Life.

Boy? what aileth thee to cry out
so? why dost thou lock the door
with such fury? O Sir (then I an-
swered) I pray you help me, for they
bring us in here a dead Coarse. How
so said he? I met the Coarse above
in the street, and his Wife followed
him saying, O my Husband and my
Lord, whither do they carry you?
to the uncomfortable and sad House,
to the dark and sorrowful House, to
the House where they never eat nor
drink? Therefore without doubt
Sir, they do bring him in here to you.
Now truly when my Master heard
this, although he had no great cause
to be joyful, he laughed so earnest-
ly, that he stood a good while and
could not speak. In this mean season,
I had barred the door, and for more
fury, had laid my shoulders fast a-
gainst it. The people passed by with
their Coarse, & yet still I was afraid,
and durst not remove, least they
should bring him in: and when my

you H Master

The Spaniards Life.

Master had satisfied himself with laughing, though not with meat, he said unto me, truly *Lazaro*, thou hast said the truth, and according to the Widow's crying words, thou hadst good reason to suspect that which thou hast said: but now, seeing that God hath dealt better with us than so, and that they are past us, open the door, and go to buy us some meat. Sir, then said I, let them first be all past. In the end, my Master came and opened the door against my will, and it was as much as he could do, I held it so hard, being in great fear. Then he caused me to return to my voyage, and although we dined well that day, notwithstanding, I found no taste at all in my meat, nor within three days after, I never recovered my own colour, and as often as the remembrance of these vain things came to my Masters mind, he was never able to stay himself from laughing. After

The Spaniards Life.

such sort I continued a time with this my third poor Master, which was a Squire, seeking continually occasion to know his estate, and for what cause he had come to dwell in this City; for I perceived that he was a stranger, long before, by reason that he had so little acquaintance with those of the City. Finally, my wish was accomplished, and I understood that which I coveted to know: for upon a day, after that he had dined reasonably well, he being at that time indifferently well satisfied, declared unto me his affairs, in so much that he certified me, that he was born in *Castilia* the old, and how that he had forsaken his Country for nothing in the world, but because he would not abase himself so much as put off his Cap to a Gentleman his Neighbour: and having heard all his discourse, I said unto him, Sir, if he were such a one as you say, and besides that, if he were rich-
er

The Spaniards Life.

er than you, it had been but your duty to put off your Cap first to him, for I believe he would have done the like to you : indced he is a Gentleman, and richer than I, and he would always put off his Cap to the uttermost, when I did put off mine, but seeing that oftentimes mine was first off, reason would have required, that his should once have been first, and so have wonne of me my quick hand, the courtesie. As for me, said I, I would never have had regard to that. Thou art a Child, said he, and therefore thou knowest not what doth belong to Honour, which at this day is the only refuge of such as be honest : therefore thou shalt understand, that I am as thou seest a poor Esquire, and I make a vow to God, that if I should meet in the midst of the street an Earl, that would not put his Cap altogether off, as well as I do mine ; the next time I see him come, I will enter in-

The Spaniards Life.

to some House, as if I had some business there, or else crosse over into another street, if there be any between me and him, so that I shall not need to put off my Cap to him, for a Gentleman is bound to none but to God and the Prince, and therefore it is reason that an honest man shall be curious to esteem his own person. I do remember that upon a day, I dishonoured and had almost beaten a Craftsman where I was born, because that whensoever he met me, he would say, *Mantenga dios a v. m.* which is to say, Sir, God maintain your Worship: I took him once with the deed, and said, How now Sir Clown, what mean you by this, who hath so instructed you, doth it become you to say unto me, God maintain you, even as I were one of the common sort? From henceforth he would put off his Cap to me a far off, and salute me as he ought. Why, Sir, said I, was not that kind of salutation good

The Spaniards Life.

good enough for any man, is it not sufficient, for a man to say, God maintain your Masterhip? he answered angrily, thou must know, in an evil hour, that that kind of salutation is used to a mean man, but no man ought to salute one of my estate after such a sort, but always he ought to say, *Beso las manos de vrm.* which is as much as to say, I kisse your Worships hands, or at the least, *Beso Señor las manos,* I do kisse your hands, if so be that he that saluteth me a Knight or a Gentleman: so from that day forward I could never abide to hear talk of maintenance, nor suffer any man unless it were the King, to say unto me, Sir, God maintain you.

Alas wretch that I am (said I to my self) that is the cause, that he hath so little care to maintain thee, for thou canst abide no man to wish it thee.

Furthermore he said, I am not so

The Spaniards Life.

Two and
thirty
Maravedis,
is six pence
English.

poor, but that I have in my Country, ground, where foundation of Houses is well and surely laid, which if they were built up as they ought, sumptuous and great, and by exchange placed in *Valladolid*, sixteen miles on this side the place where I was born, they would be worth no less than a thousand Maravedies: and I have a Dove-house, which if it were built up, as it is now fallen, it would yeild me yearly above two hundred Pigeons: besides other things which I will not now speak of, all which things I forsook, for matters which touched mine Honour, and came to this City, meaning to serve one of the cheif Nobles, but it happened otherwise with me: I find indeed many Doctors and Prebends belonging to the Church, but they keep such modest orders, that all the World is not able to bring them out of their pace: many Gentlemen, which are of the basest sort,

The Spaniards Life.

sort, covet to have me ; but to serve such men is great travel ; for from a man you must become a Cloak-bag, or else they will straight bid you farewell, and most commonly, their wages is paid with long terms, sometime your meat and drink only, for your painful service.

And when they mean to reform their Conscience, and to consider the Servants pain, there shall be delivered out of the Ward-robe, some cut Doublet, or some thred-bare Cloak or Coat : But when a man serveth a Noble-man of the Order, he shall better passe over his misery : but peradventure there is not in me ability to serve and to content such men.

By God, if I had met with any one of them, I think certainly I should quickly have been chief of his Councel ; for I would have done him a thousand kind of services. I could have dissembled as well as any other

The Spaniards Life.

other, yea, and pleased him a thousand fold, that it would have been marvellous ; I would have smiled merrily at his doings, although they had not been the best in the World: I would never have recited that which should have displeased him, no although it had been much for his profit, most diligent about his person, in word and deed, never vexing my self about the well doing of things, that should never come to his sight, but sometimes, have chide such as served, where he might hear me, that I might seem to be careful about that which touched him: and whensoever he should happen to fall out with any of his men, then would I put forth two or three smooth words, to set him forward, which should seem to be in the favour of the offender, affirming always that which I thought he liked of: and on the contrary side, a malicious mocker of the ignorant and
rude

The Spaniards life.

rude sort. Furthermore, I would always demand and procure, how to know the lives of strangers, to account them unto him, with other such tricks of like quality, which at this day are used in great Palaces & Courts, and which please the chief dwellers herein, which cannot abide to see in their Houses vertuous men but do abhorre and esteem them as naught, despising and calling them fools, and ignorant in the traffique of waighy affairs, so that the Lord cannot safely trust to their simple doings in waighy matters : therefore now a days, those that are subtil and crafty, get into favour, and use such means as I would have used if fortune would have suffered me to have found out such a noble Lord.

After this sort, my Master lamented his evil fortune, making relation unto me, what a valiant person he was: And being in such talk, there cometh

The Spaniards Life.

comerh in to us, a man, and an old Woman, the man demanded the rent of the House, and the Woman the hire of the Bed, and there made straightways accounts, so that he for two months, was indebted more than he was able to pay in a whole year. I think his debts came to twelve or thirteen Ryals of plate: he gave them gentle answers, that he would go to the Market-place, to change a double piece of gold, desiring them to come again in the evening, but his departure was without return.

When evening came, they returned, but it was too late, wherefore I told them, that he was not yet come, the night being come & he not, I was afraid to lie alone in the house, therefore I went to my Neighbours, and there declared unto them the whole matter, and there lay all night.

The next day in the morning, the Creditors came and enquired for my Master

The Spaniards Life.

Master (but at the other door I must tell you,) unto whom the Women answered : There is his Servant , with the key of the door : They demanded me for him, I answered, That I knew not where he was, for he was not come home, since he went abroad to change his gold, and that therefore I thought that he was gone both from them and me, with the exchange. When they heard me say so, they went straight and seek a Sergeant and Scrivener, and as soon as they had brought them thither, without delay they took the Key , and opened the door in the presence of Witnesses, and entred in to sequester my Masters goods, that the debt might be paid them : But when they had sought the House all over, they found it as empty as I have told you; wherefore they demanded of me, whither my Masters goods were conveyed, his Chests, his Tapestry, and his Household-stuff. I answered, say-

The Spaniards Life.

saying, I know nothing that he hath
Sir. Without doubt they have been
taken away this night, say they, and
carried to some other place, there-
fore master Serjeant, take hold on
this Boy, for he knoweth all.

Then the Officer approacheth un-
to me, and taking fast hold on the
coller of my Goat said; Thou art
prisoner, unless thou tell where thy
Master his goods are become: but as
never no man had taken hold on me
in that place before, saving only my
blind Master, who never laid hand
on me so rudely, but gently, that I
might lead him that could not see, I
was afraid and crying mercy, I pro-
mised to tell all that they deman-
ded. Go to then, say they, say on
Gods name what thou knowest, and
be not afraid: the Scrivener sitteth
down in haste to write the inven-
tory, demanding what goods he
had.

I then began to declare what I
knew,

The Spaniards Life.

knew, saying; Sir, the goods that he hath or at least, that which he told me he had, was a piece of ground, where foundation of Houses is laid, and moreover a Dove-house which is safe. Well said (say they) my Boy, though that be little worth, it is sufficient to pay us. In what place of the City standeth it? (say they.) I answered, Marry it standeth a good way hence in his own Country. The matter is then in a fair case (say they) but where is his Country? He told me, that he was born in *Castilia* the old. The Sergeant and the Scrivener laughing apace, said, this confession is sufficient for you to recover the debt (though it were greater.) The Neighbours that were there present, said, This Child is an innocent, and he hath not dealt long with the Squire, therefore he knoweth no more of him than you do; he hath oftentimes come to us, and we have given him such meat as we had
for

The Spaniards Life.

for Gods sake, and at nights gone in, to lye with his Master. When they perceived mine innocency, they did set me at liberty. The Serjeant and the Scrivener did demand of the man and the Woman their fee, whereupon there rose great contention, and they alledged that they were not bound to pay, seeing that there was no execution made, especially, seeing that there was not wherewithal. The Officers alledged, for that coming thither, they had left undone matters of much and great importance.

Finally, after many angry words, a poor Carrier was loden with the old mattress, which was the Womans, scant half a load to the Bearer. Then went they all five out together chiding, what became of them after, I know not; I believe the poor mattress paid for all. And thus, as I tell you, I lost my third master; when as I fully perceived evil fortune wrought

The Spaniards Life.

wrought altogether against me, inso-
much, that my affairs went so back-
ward, that whereas Masters are wont
to be forsaken of their Servants, it
was not so with me, but my Master
was faine to forsake me, yea, and run
away in hast.

*How Lazaro placeth himself to dwell
with a Fryer of the Abbey of Grace.*

I Was then constrained to seek the
fourth Master, which was a Fryer
of the Abbey of *Grace*, unto whom
the poor Women, which I have told
you of, preferred me. They called
him cozen. This man was an enemy
to the Quire, not liking well of his
Meals in the Covent; a man lost
for going abroad, desirous to see
worldly affairs and visitations,
wherefore I think, that he alone did
tear more shooes, than all the rest of
his Brethren: It was he that gave me
the first shooes that ever I wore in all

I

my

The Spaniards Life.

my life, which lasted me but eight days; for he never left trotting abroad: wherefore for this, and for other small matters, which at this time I will not speak of, I was faine to forsake him.

How Lazaro placeth himself with a Pardoner, and what things happened to him in his service.

I Met by evil chance with the fifth Master, which was an utterer of Pardons, the deceitfullest Merchant, and the most shameless that ever I did see, or any man else: For to dispatch away his pardons, he had fine means and traffique, and daily imagined therefore most subtil inventions.

As soon as he arrived to such Towns, where he should utter his pardons, he would first present some gift of small value or substance to the Priests and Curates of that place; some-

The Spaniards Life.

sometimes a Cabbage-lettice, a couple of Lemmons or Oranges; other-whiles an Apricock, or else a couple of Peaches, or at least, to every one a fair Pear: and by that means he went about to make them his friends, that they might favour his affairs, and cause their Parishioners to receive the pardons: Yea, and that they should thank him, he would always be informed before he came, which were learned, and which not. When he came to those, which he understood were learned, he would be sure never to speak word of Latin, for fear of stumbling: but used in such places, a gentle kind of *Castilian Spanish*, his tongue always at liberty: and contrariwise, whensoever he was informed of the reverend *Domines*, (I mean such as are made Priests more for money, than for learning and good behaviour) to hear him speak amongst such men, you would say it were S.

The Spaniards Life.

Thomas : for he would then, two hours together talk Latine : at least which seemed to be, though it was not.

When that they received not his Pardons friendly, he sought means to make them to take them perforce : So that oftentimes, he therefore molested the Parishioners, otherwhiles causing them to receive them by subtil inventions. And now, seeing it were too long to account all such parts as I did see him use, I will recite one, whereby he shewed right well, how sufficient he was. He had preached two or three days in a Village, within the Diocess of the Arch-bishop of *Toledo*, without omitting any part of his accustomed diligence, and the people had not taken one pardon, nor no man (as far as I could perceive) was minded to receive any : wherefore he was in great rage.

And as he imagined what he had best

The Spaniards Life.

best to do, determined to invite and bid all the people to come thither the next day, so to dispatch his Pardons, and that night after Supper, he and his Serjeant went to play for their Break-fast, and as they played, they fell at such debate, that the one gave evil words to the other: Inso-much, that at the last he said to his Serjeant, That he was a Theif; and the Serjeant answered, saying, That he was a Falsifier: wherefore the Commissary my Master laid hand upon a short Pike that stood behind the door, where they played; and the Serjeant on the other side, put hand to his Sword, which hung by his side: so that with the great noise that we made, our Host and our Neighbours came in, and went between them: then they being sore angry, sought all means to come together, that the one might kill the other: But the House was so full of people, that they could by no means

Pardoners have al-ways with them a Serjeant to take up gages in such houses as refuse to pay for their pardon at the time appointed.

The Spaniards Life.

come nigh to one another, wherefore they never left giving one another injurious words, insomuch, that the Serjeant said to my Master, that he was a Falsifier, and that the pardons which he preached of daily, were most false.

To be brief, when the people perceived, that they could by no means pacifie them, they determined to carry the Serjeant away to another lodging, and my Master remained still there in great rage.

Whereupon our Host, with his Neighbours, desired him heartily that he would forget his anger, and go to bed: and so then we went all to sleep. As soon as day appeared in the morning, my Master went to the Church, and caused them there to ring to Mass, and to Sermon, that he might dispatch his Pardons: then the people assembled together, murmuring amongst themselves at the Pardons, saying, That they were false
and

The Spaniards Life.

and nothing worth, seeing that the Serjeant himself had affirmed the same : So that before that time, they having small mind to receive any, they then utterly abhorred them.

Mr. Commissary mounteth up into the Pulpit, and beginneth his Sermon, encouraging the people not to forsake such great goodness and indulgence, as the holy pardon contained : and being in the midst of his Sermon, the Serjeant cometh in at the Church-door, and when that he had ended his prayers, he rose up suddenly, and with a loud voice discreetly said, Ye honest and godly people, give ear that I may tell you a word or two, and then hear whom ye will, I am come hither in the company of this Crow-keeper which now preacheth, who hath deceived me, promising, that if I would help him in his affaires, I should have half the gains. But now

The Spaniards Life.

All Serjeants in Spain do bear a white rod in their hands, higher than themselves by half a foot, as big as a mans finger.

They were no Lords, every man is of honor there.

perceiving the damage that my conscience should receive, and besides that, the loss of your goods, I do earnestly repent that which I have done, and I will tell you plainly, that the Pardons which he hath brought are false: therefore ye ought not to believe him, nor yet take any one of them. As for me, I will neither be partaker with him one way or other, therefore from this time forward, I do forsake the rod of them, which I now cast to the ground: for if hereafter he be punished for his falsehood, you may be witness with me that I am no doer with him herein, nor yet help him, but do rather bewray unto you his craft and falsehood: and when he had said all, certain men of honour which were there, would needs have cast him out of the Church, to avoid scandal: but my Master did forbid them so to do, commanding them all upon pain of excommunication, to suffer him to say

The Spaniards Life.

say all that ever he could, and he himself kept silence whiles that the Serjeant declared all that which I have rehearsed: and as soon as he held his tongue, my Master demanding him whether he would say any more: the Serjeant answered, there may be much more said of thee, and of thy falshood, but at this time this is sufficient.

Then my Master Commissary falling down upon his knees in the pulpit, holding up his hands, his eyes looking up to Heaven, said these words: O Lord God, from whom nothing is hid, unto whom all things are manifest, and unto whom nothing is impossible, who can do all things, thou knowest the truth, and how unjustly I am accused and slandered: as for me (O Lord) I forgive him that thou maist forgive me. Have no regard to him that knoweth nor what he doth nor saith: notwithstanding, O Lord, I do beseech thee

The Spaniards Life.

thee, and through justice I demand of thee, that thou wilt not dissemble this injury which is done unto thee. Peradventure, some that are here present were minded to take this divine pardon, which now will not, giving place and credit to the wicked mans words: and because this matter is so hurtful to Christian Neighbours, I beseech thee once again, good Lord, that thou wilt not dissemble it, but immediately, that it may please thee to shew here a miracle, and that this may be thus: if it be true that this man saith, that is, that the Pardons which I have here are false, that this Pulpit may then sink with me, as far as the depth of seven men under the ground, that neither it nor I may never be seen again. And on the other side, if that be true which I say, that he being perswaded by the Devil, hath said these words falsely and untruly, only to deprive the people of such goodness,

The Swaniards Life.

ness, that then it may also please thee to punish him, that his malicious perversity may be known to all men.

My devout Master had scant ended his prayers, but that the poor Serjeant fell in a trance, giving himself such a blow against the ground, that all the Church sounded of it, stretching out his body with great abundance of foam at his mouth, making strange visages, and striking the ground both with hand and foot, tumbling up and down from one side to another : Insomuch that the noise that the people made, was so great, that one could not hear another. Some were amazed and sore afraid, saying, God be his help ; and others said, He hath that which he hath deserved, seeing that he durst affirm such falsehood.

Finally, some of those that were there, which to my judgement were not without great fear, came near

to

The Spaniards Life.

to hold fast his hands, wherewith he stroke all such as came near him, Others held him fast by the feet, for there was never false moyle in the world that ever kicked so fast: and so they held him a good while, There were above 15. men upon him, and he gave them all their hands full: so that if they had forgotten their business, he would have given some of them overthwart the teeth. All this while my Master was in the Pulpit upon his knees, holding his hands together still, his eyes bent towards Heaven, transported unto such divine extasie, that all the noise and rumour which was in the Church, was not sufficient to bring him out of his divine contemplation. Certain honest men that were there, came unto him, and awaked him by force of crying, desiring that it might please him to succour the poor man that was a dying, and that he should not regard that
which

The Spaniards Life.

which had passed, nor yet his evil words, seeing that now he had received punishment therefore, but that if he cou'd help him any way how to escape that peril and danger that he was in, that he would so do for Gods sake: and as for them, they plainly perceived that he was in the fault, and so likewise that they knew his truth and goodness, seeing that at his petition, the Lord straightways for revengement, sent him punishment.

Then my Master the Commissary, like one that had awaked out of a gracious sleep, beholdeth them, and also the patient, with all those that were about him, and said: Ye honest men, ye ought not to pray for one, on whom God hath so manifestly shewed his power; but seeing that he hath commanded that we shall not render evil for evil, but rather that we shall pardon all injuries, to be able to make supplication
on

The Spaniards Life.

on unto him, that we may fullfil that which he commanded us. And now that his Majesty (being by him offended) may forgive him, so to shew miracles of true faith, let us go all together with humble heart, and pray to him. Wherefore he came down out of the Pulpit, commanding such as were there present, most devoutly to pray to our Lord, that it might please him, through his grace, to pardon the sinner, and to restore him to his health and bodily senses again: And moreover, if his divine Majesty had permitted any evil spirit to enter into him for his offences, that it might please him likewise, to drive it out again. Incontinently they fell all upon their knees, before the Altar, and with the Priests they began to sing with low voice, the Letany, and the Commissary my Master, having sung over him, came with the Crosse and Holy Water, holding up his hands,
and

The Spaniards Life:

and his eyes bent towards Heaven, that one might see nothing of them but a little white, began his prayer no less devout than long, wherewith he made those that were there present to weep, as they were wont to do at the Sermons of the passion; and he as a devout Preacher, desired almighty God (seeing that he desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he shall repent and live) to pardon, forgive, and restore to life, that poor sinner which was led by the Devil, overcome with death and sin, that he might repent and confess his sins : when he had so done, he sent for one of the Pardons, and laid it upon his head, whereupon immediately the poor Serjeant began to amend, and by little and little to return to himself. And as soon as he had recovered his senses, he kneeleth down at Mr. Commissaries feet, and there demanded pardon, confessing, how that he had said
and

The Spaniards Life.

and done all those things, by the mouth and instruction of the devil, as well to give him grief, and to be revenged of him, as also because the Devil was sorry to see the goodness which people received by taking the holy Pardons. My Master did then forgive him, and friendship was made between them.

Then was there such great haste to take Pardons, that almost no Creature living in that Town, but took one, the Husband and the Wife, Sons and Daughters, Men servants and Maid-servants, there was none but would have one.

This news was spread abroad through all the Towns there about, so that we then being come thither, it was not needful to preach, nor yet to go to the Church to dispatch the Pardons; for the people came so fast to our lodging for them, as if they had been pears that had been given them for nothing: in so much
that

The Spaniards Life.

that my Master dispatched and uttered away ten or twelve thousand Pardons in ten or twelve little Villages thereabouts, without preaching one Sermon. And as for my part, I will confels my ignorance, for when this their invention was tried, I was in a great marvel to see such a strange case, and I thought the matter had been so indeed, as many other did : yet notwithstanding when I perceived once the jesting and scoffing that my Master and the Serjeant would make at the matter by the way, I understood plainly, that all that counterfeit shew was invented by my Masters subtile industrious Art. And although I was of tender years, yet I took great pleasure to consider their doings, and would say to my self : How many are there such as these that deceive the simple people. To conclude, I continued with this fifth Master near four months,

K

during

The Spaniards Life.

during which time I suffered much sorrow.

How Lazaro dwelleth with a Chaplain, and what happened to him in his service.

Afterward I entered into service of a painter of Drums, unto whom I tempered colours, with whom I suffered a thousand evils; and as I was then of good bigness, entering one day into the great Church, one of the Chaplains received me for his own, and gave me in government an Ass, with four great Tankards, and a whip, to sell water up and down the City, and this was the first stair I climbed up to come to attain to a good life: for my mouth had then the measure, I delivered up daily to my Master in gain thirty Ware-polls, and on every Saturday I laboured for my self, and all the week also, whatsoever I could

21

carn

They do carry water up and down the City to sell upon Asses, with four and sometimes six Tankards: for they have o water but from the River.

The Spaniards life.

For over thirty *Marevedis* a day, was mine own. This office was so good, that at four years end I had spared with my wages and my gains, so much as bought me apparrel honestly, with old stuff, whereof I bought an old black fustian Doublet, and a Coat thred-bare, with gathered sleeves, and whole before, and a Cloak that had been of selzado, and a Sword of the old making, one of the first of *Cuellar*. And perceiving my self then in apparrel like an honest man, I desired my Master to take his Asse again, and that I would no more follow that office.

The Spaniards Life.

*How Lazaro dwelleth with a Serjeant,
and what happened to him in his
service.*

After that I had taken my leave
of the Chaplain, I did place my
self with a Serjeant, to be a member
of Justice : but I dwelled few days
with him, for in short time I per-
ceived that it was a dangerous Of-
fice, especially when that certain

A man may
scape in
Spain the
hands of
the Officers
of Justice
if they can
flee into
some
Church, so
it be not
theft, trea-
son, or re-
ligion.

transgressors, which retired into a
Church, chased my Master and me
marvellously with stones and staves :
and at that present time my Master
(whom I tarried for) was evil hand-
led, but they could never overtake
me : yet for all that, I did forswear
the office. And as I imagined what
kind of life I had best lead that I
might provide something against
mine old age, God by his grace
lightned my mind to find out the
profitable way : So that through the
favour

The Spaniards Life.

favour which I had of my friends
and Masters, all the sorrows, which
before that time I had sustained, were
recompenced with an office Royal,
which I obtained: the which I pre-
tended, because that at this day there
is no account but of them that have
wherewithal.

The Cryer
in Spain do
sell all
kind of
stuff, and
when any
is whi, t
thorow the
City he go-
eth before
him decla-
ring with
loud voice
what he
hath done.

So that at this present, I live in
mine Office, and exercise it to Gods
service and yours. Sir, it is so that
I have the charge to cry the Wines
that are sold in this City, and to
make inquiry, with open cry, for
things that have been lost, and when
any suffer persecution by justice, I
do accompany them, declaring with
loud voice their offence. I am (in
plain language) a common Cryer.
Sir, matters have so well gone for-
ward with me, and I have used my
self so well, that in manner all things
belonging to the Office, pass
through my hands. Infomuch, that
look whosoever within this City

The Spaniards Life.

doth broach wine, or sell any thing
and that *Lazarilla de Tormes* be not
present, they make account never to
get again.

In this mean time, Master Arch-
deacon of Saint *Salvador*, your friend
and servant at commandment, hav-
ing knowledge of my person and a-
bility, especially since I had cryed
his wine, went about to Marry me
with his Maid. And after I had con-
sidered, that having to do with such
a man as Master Archdeacon was, I
could not receive but honesty and
goodness, I determined to do it, so
that I took her to wife, whereof thi-
therto I do not repent: for besides
that she is honest, and a diligent
wench, I find great favour and help
at Master Archdeacons hand, for e-
very year, from one time to ano-
ther, he giveth her as good as a load
of wheat, and against Christmas or
Easter, some good morsel of flesh, a
couple or two of Loaves, and such
old

The Spaniards Life.

old hose as he leaveth : and he caused us to hire a little house near his dwelling : on every Sunday and holiday we dined (most commonly) in his own House. But evil tongues which never cease, would not suffer us to live in peace, they would say this and that, and that they did see my Wife go and make his bed, and dress his meat. But God help them better than they say truth. Besides that, she is a Woman that doth not delight in such game. Master Archdeacon hath promised me that which I trust he will fulfill.

For upon a time in her presence he said at large unto me, *Lazaro de Tormes*, he that will have regard to evil tongues, shall never get profit. I say thus much unto thee, I can never marvel, though some men murmur to see thy Wife come in and out of my House, which doing, I promise thee, shall not otherwise redound but to thy great honesty and

The Spaniards Life.

hers. Therefore let people have their words, have thou only regard to that which shall be for thy profit. I answered him, saying, Sir, I have determined to joyn my self with those that are good, but truth it is, that certain of my friends have warned me of this, yea, and moreover they have twice or thrice certified me with other, that before she was married to me she had two or three Children, be it spoken under your Masterships correction, seeing that she is present. My Wife began then to give such Oaths, that I thought the House would have sunk with us all, and then began to weep, cursing the time that ever she married me, insomuch that I wished my self dead, when that I let scape that word out of my mouth. But I on the one side, and my Master on another, said so much, that she left weeping: and I did swear unto her, that as long as I lived, I would never again

use

The Spaniards Life.

use the like talk : and how that I re-
joyced and was well content, that
she should come in and out both day
and night, seeing that her honesty
and faithfulness was so well known.
So then we remained all three with
one accord until this day, and never
no man heard us since reason of
that matter. And from that time for-
ward, whensoever I could happen to
hear any man talk of this, I would
straight break off his matter, and say
unto him, Look if thou be my friend,
speak nothing that shall grieve me,
for I do not take him for my friend
that caused me to sorrow, especially
that goeth about to sowe discord
between me and my Wife, whom I
love better than any thing in this
World, considering how that by her
means, God hath done more for me
than I have deserved : and I dare
swear by the holy Sacrament, that
she is as honest a Woman as any that
dwelleth, within the four Gates of
Toledo :

The Spaniards Life.

Toledo: and he that saith the contrary, I will bestow my life upon him. So from thence forward, they never durst move any such matter unto me, and I had peace always in my House. This was the same year that our victorious Emperour entred into his noble City of *Toledo*, where his Court was kept with great feasts and triumphs, as your Worship hath heard: finally it was then that I was in my prosperity, and in my chiefeft time of good adventure.

Lazaro

The Spaniards Life.

Lazaro declareth the friendship that
I certain High Germans shewed him,
and what happened between them.

BEing now in the top of my pro-
sperity, having fortune my
friend, I never went without a bot-
tle of the best wine in the City, of
the very same I carried about me
(being a common Cryer) to give a
tast to as many as were willing to
buy: by vertue of which Wine, I
purchased so many Gentlemen my
friends, as well inhabitants there, as
strangers, that wheresoever I came,
the door should straight be opened
for me. And I was so favoured eve-
rywhere, that if I had chanced to
have slain a man, or to commit some
haynous offence, all the World
would straightways have been on
my side, being assured that those
Gentle-

The Spaniards Life.

Gentlemen being the Kings Guard, would sufficiently both succour and help me.

Therefore, whensoever we met, I never suffered them to depart dry-mouthed away, but did carry them with me to the best Wine I had broached in the City, where oftentimes we went in upon our own feet, and came out, either without any or at the least with strange feet.

And that which I liked best of all, was, that all the time I kept them company, the Devil a blank *Lazaro de Tormes* did pay, nor that they would consent he should pay. For whensoever I did put my hand to my purse (for manners sake only) they would take it in evil part, and beholding me, angerly, would say, *Nitte, Nitte. Asticor lanz*; and foreprebending me, would alledge, that where they were in company, no man should pay a blank: wherefore I was greatly in love with these people:

The Spaniards Life.

people : and it was not only that served our turn, but as often as we met, we should have also slices of Bacon, peices of Legs of Mutton sod in that pleasant Wine, with all manner of fine spice, and therewith they would fill, both my bosom and skirts, enough for my Wife and me a whole week.

The world being then so plentiful, I would call to remembrance the hungry fits I had sustained in times past, praising the Lord, and giving him thanks, that the World now at the length was so well changed. But, as the proverb saith : *He that will do good to thee, will either go his way, or dye.* And so it happened to me, the Court removing, as it is wont to do, and my friends following it, at their departing I was desired by them, that I would bear them company, promising to shew me much friendship and favour.

But remembering the old proverb :

Better

The Spaniards Life.

Better is the evil known, than the good which is yet to know, thanking them for their good will, and desiring their favour, after many sighs and sorrowful embracings, I took my leave, and they departed. And truly, had I been unmarried. I would never have so forsaken their Company, for indeed they were people, much of my nature and disposition. And it was a gracious, and not a phantastical, nor a presumptuous life they did lead.

A man should never see them scrupulous, nor nice, to enter into a Tavern, but would go in boldly, (yea, with cap in hand) if the Wine for goodnesse deserved so much. They were plain men, full of all honesty, and gentle courtesie, and so well provided at all times, that I would to God when I am a thirst, I might always meet with such men. Notwithstanding, the love which I bare to my Wife, and to my Coun-

try

The Spaniards Life.

ry (which now I take for mine
own native, because men do com-
monly say ; Whence art thou, ho-
nest man ?) caused me to stay at
home. So I continued ever since
in this City, leading a solitary
life for the losse of my friends
and countly life, although that
I was well known of all the Ci-
tizens.

Afterwards, I lived very well at
mine own ease, with increase of joy
and kindred, for the birth of a
trim little Daughter, which with-
in a little while after my Wife
brought forth. Whereat I having
some evil suspition, she did swear
all Oaths, that I was the Father,
and that she was mine. I conti-
nued in this estate, until fortune
thought, that she had now given
me too much ease, and that she
thought it reason for her, to turn
back, and shew me again, her ser-
vice and cruel visage, to temper
those

The Spaniards Life.

those few years, which I passed at ease, with as much more travel and deadly sorrow, which now I should endure. O great God, who is able to write so unfortunate and miserable a case, but must let the Ink-horn rest, and put the pen to his eyes?

THE

THE
PURSUIT
OF THE
HISTORY
OF

Lazarillo De Tormes.

Gathered out of the ancient
Chronicles of TOLEDO:

By Jean de Luna a Castilian:

And now done into *English*, and set
forth by the same Authour.

LONDON,
Printed for William Leake, 1670.

THE
FIRST
OF THE
HISTORY
OF

Lazarillo De Tormes.

Gathered out of the ancient
Chronicles of Toledo.

By Juan de Luna Castellan.

Now done into English, and
forth by the same Author.

L O N D O N.

Printed for William Lintell: 1676.

Carta Dedicatoria.

Al Ilustrissimo y excellentis-
simo Senhor Don Roberto Car de
Ancram, Cauallero titulado, y de la
Camara Privada, gran Tesorero
de cosas extraordinarias de
su Alteza el Principe de
Galles.

Illustriss. y excellentiss. Senhor.

DOs cosas me han movido a de-
dicar a V. S. esta obra: la una y
mas principal es, para mostrar en
algo la voluntad que tengo de servir
a quien por tantos titulos lo merece,
y a quien estoy tan obligado. La otra
para arrimar al pobre Lazaro a la
sombra, y amparo de quien con su
autoridad lo defienda, con su virtud
lo adorne, y con su saviduria lo cali-
fique.

Carta Dedicatoria.

figue. Las verdades desnudas y sin reboco que este libro dize, le han hecho pasar por el fuego, para que acri solado llegasse a las manos de Vn. Seumoria. He lo hecho traducir en Ingles, fiel, y literalmente, para que se manifieste su inocencia, y vea que en el no ay cosa que pase les limites de una honesta, licita y loable recreacion: antes es una centinela que descubre de lexos los enemigos, y muestra los tropiccos y batrancos, en que los ignorantes por falta de advertencia caen, y tropie can. Suplico a V. S. le reciva con su clemencia, y bondad acostumbrada, no echando a atrevimiento, lo que ha nacido del deseo que tengo de emplear mi vida, y fuerças, en servicio de quien soy el mas humilde, y obediente de sus criados.

J. DELUNA.

THE



T H E

Authour to the Reader.

THe occasion (Gentle Reader) of
Printing the second Part of La-
zarillo de Tormes hath been
that there came to my hands a
little Pamphlet, which treats of his
Life, without any likelihood of truth.
The greatest part of it is stuf with
telling, how Lazaro fell into the Sea,
where he was turned into a Fish called
a Tunny, and lived there many
years, marrying with a she Tunny, by
whom he had Children, as much
Fishes as the Father and Mother. It re-
lateth also the Wars that the Tunnies
made, Lazaro being their Captain, and

To the Reader.

many other Tales as ridiculous as false, and as ill grounded as foolish. And unquestionless, the Author of it had a mind to utter some foolish dream, or some dreamed folly. That Book (I say) hath been the first motive, that hath moved me to bring to light this second Part, word for word, without adding or diminishing, as I have seen it written in certain scrouls kept in the Treasury in Records of the Beggars of Toledo, and as I have heard it a hundred times told by my Grand-mother, & Aunts, by the fires side in the Winter nights, and with the which my Nurse hath weaned me. For the better confirmation, I remember how they & others of our Neighbours would dispute, How it could be possible that Lazaro could be so long under water (as is said in this second Part) without drowning? Some held pro, and the others con. The first quoted Lazaro himself; who said, That the water could not get into him, by reason that he was filled & crammed up to the very mouth. A good old man, well skild

To the Reader.

skill in swimming, to prove that to be an easie matter, interposed his Authority, affirming, That he had seen a man, who going to swim in the River Tagus, dived under water, and remained in certain Caves from Sun-set until next morning, that by the Sun-shine he did find the way out: and when as his Parents and friends were weary of bewailing and seeking his body, to give it burial, he came forth safe and sound. The other difficulty that they found in his life was, That no body did take Lazaro for a man, and that as many as saw him, should take him for a Fish. To this answered a good Canon, (who by reason that he was very old, did commonly sit in the Sun among the Distasse-spinners;) That it was most likely of all, as agreeing with the opinion of many ancient and modern Writers, as among others, Aristotle, Pliny, Ælian, Albertus Magnus, who affirm, That there are certain Fishes in the Sea, males they call Tritons, and the females Nereides,

To the Reader.

and all of them Sea-men, who from the
girdle upward have the shape of perfect
men, and from thence downward, of
Fishes. And I say, that although that o-
pinion had not been defended by so well
approved Authours, yet the Licence that
the Fishermen had from the Lords In-
quisitors, might suffice to excuse the Spa-
nish ignorance, seeing it had been a case
of inquisition to have doubted of a mat-
ter which their Lordships had consented
should be shown for such. And to this
purpose (though out of my compass) I
will relate an accident that befell a la-
boring man of my Country: which was,
That one of the Inquisitors having sent
for him, to beg some of his Pears of
him, which he had heard were excellent;
the poor Clown not knowing why his
Lordship should send for him, was so
scared, that he fell sick upon it, till that
by the means of a friend of his, he un-
derstood the business: And then present-
ly starting from his Bed, he ran into his
Garden, pluckt up the Tree by the Root,
and

To the Reader.

and presently sent with the Fruit, saying, he would not keep in his house an occasion for their Lordships to send for him another time; so great is the fear that not only labouring men, and the baser sort of people, but even the Lords and Grands have of them. All of them tremble when they hear these words, Inquisitor and Inquisition, more than the leaves upon the Tree with the gentle Zephirus. This is that which I have been willing to warn the Reader of, that he may be the readier to answer, when such questions shall be propounded in his presence, if he accept the second Part, let him expect the third, with the Death and Testament of Lazarillo; which is the best of all: if not, he may at least receive my good will, Farewell.

THE

To the Reader.

My dear Reader, I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of your letter
of the 10th inst. in relation to the
above mentioned matter. I am very
glad to hear that you are so
interested in the cause of the
poor, and that you are so
generous as to wish to contribute
to their relief. I have no doubt
but that your efforts will be
successful, and that you will
be able to do much good.

THE



T H E
Pursuit of the History
O F

Lazarillo De Tormes.

Gathered out of the ancient Chro-
nicles of Toledo.

CHAP. I.

*In the which, Lazaro telleth how he
parted from Toledo, to go to the
Wars of Argiers.*

WHo hath the best, and worst
doth love, must not be griev-
ed if worst he prove. I speak it to
this purpose, that I neither could
nor

The pursuit of the History

nor would contain my self in that good course which Fortune had offered me: Change being in me as an inseparable accident, that accompanied me as well in my best and plentiful, as in my worst and disastrous fortunes; enjoying then the happiest life that ever Patriarch did, eating like an invited Fryer, drinking more than at a Gossipping, better cloathed than a Jesuite, and with two round dozens of Ryals in my purse; surer than any Huckster of *Madrid*; my House full, as a Beehive; a Daughter, got in Capricorn; and an Office, which the Dogwhipper of the Cathedral Church of *Toledo* might well have envied: News came of the Expedition for *Argiers*, which disquieted me very much, and made me determine (as a good Son) to follow the steps and track of my good Father *Thomas Gonzales* (whom God absolve) with a desire to leave to future ages a pattern and example,

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

example, not to lead a crafty blind Man, pick the loaf of a covetous Priest, serve a needy thread-bare Squire, and lastly to proclaim the faults of other men: but to open the eyes of *Moors* blinded with errors, to sink and batter the bold and Pyrrical Navy; to serve a valiant Captain, of the order of *S. John*; with whom I placed my self Butler, upon this condition. That whatsoever I should get in War, should be mine own, as it was; and lastly, the pattern and example that I meant to leave, was to encourage and animate in crying *So James*, and stand to it: *Spain*. I took leave of my well-beloved Wife, and of my dear Daughter: the one intreated me not to forget to bring her a little *Blackamore*; the other desired me to be mindful to send her by the first Carrier a Slave, to wait upon her, and some *Barbary Chetchins*, with which she might comfort her self in my absence.

The perfall of the History

lence. I asked leave of the Arch-
priest my Master, to whose care and
custody I committed both my Wife,
and Daughter, who promised to
deal with them in no worse manner,
than if they had been his own. I
parted from *Toledo* jovial, stately,
and content, (as all are that go to the
Wars) putt up with glorious
hopes, accompanied with a great
number of Friends, and Neighbours,
that went the same voyage, carried
with a desire of bettering their for-
tune. Welcame to *Murcia*, with in-
tention to go ship our selves at *Car-
tagena*: where, there befell me that
which I little wished, to make me
known, that Fortune, who had set me
on the top of her unconstant Wheel,
and advanced me to the highest de-
greet of earthly felicity, began alrea-
dy (in her swift course) to hurl me
down headlong to the lowest. The
chance was, that coming to our
Lodgings, I saw a semy man, who
seemed

seemed rather a He-goat, by reason
of his ragged & tattered Garments:
his Hat was pulled down over his
eyes, so that I could by no means
see his face: he leaned his Cheek
upon his hand, and had his leg cross
over his Sword, which he wore in a
half Scabbard made of Lists: his
Hat (right Beggers Block) had no
Crown, the better to evaporate the
humours of his head: his Doublet
was of the *French* fashion, so cut, and
flaunt, with wearing, as there was not
a peice left big enough, to wrap up
half a farthing worth of Cummin
Seed in: his shirt was of flesh, which
might be seen through the Grate of
his Garment; his Breeches were
futeable: his stockings, the one red,
the other green, came scarce to his
Anckles; his shoes without soles,
were as good to be drawn as carried.
By a Cock Feather which he wore in
his Hat, I thought he should be a
Souldier: With this Imagination, I
asked

The pursuit of the History

asked him from whence he was, and
whither he went? He casting up his
eyes, to see who he was that questi-
oned him, straight knew me, and
likewise I him; it was the Squire
whom I had served in *Toledo*: I was
astonished to see him in such a
pickle. He observing my amaze-
ment, said to me; I marvel not
(friend *Lazaro*) if thou dost wonder
to see me in this equipage: but anon
thou shalt leave wondering, when I
have told thee what hath happened
unto me, since the time that I left
thee in *Toledo* until now. Returning
to my Lodging, with the charge of
my Pistolet to discharge my Credi-
tors, I met with a Woman, close
wrapt up in her Veyle; who pulling
me by the Cloak, with tears and
sighs, mingled with sobs, intreated
me earnestly to be favourable unto
her in an urgent necessity. I bad her
speak her grief, which she should be
longer in telling, than I in helping.
She

She continuing her weeping, with a maidenly shamefastness said, that the courtesie which I was to do her, and whereof she was to request me, was to accompany her unto *Madrid*, where she was told that a Gentleman was, who not content to have dishonoured her, and also robbed her of all her Jewels, without any regard to the promise of Marriage which he had given her; and that if I would do this for her, she would do for me what a thankful woman is obliged to do. I comforted her after the best manner that I could; giving her this hope, that if her enemy were to be found in the World, she might hold her self already revenged. To conclude, without any delay we set forwards towards the Court, whitherro I bare all the charges. The good Damsell (that knew well whither she went) carried me to a Band of Souldiers, who received her with all chearfulness, and

M brought

The pursuit of the History

brought her before the Captain, to have her introlled for one of their Cockatrices : Then turning her self towards me, with a shameless and brazen countenance she said, Farewell Master Lubber, I have now no more need of you. I seeing my self thus gulled began to rage and foame at my mouth, telling her, that if she had been a man, as well as she was a woman, I would have pulled her Soul up by the Roots out of her Body. A petty Souldier among the rest rose up to me, and laying his hand upon my face, made me advance a Baboons snout; not daring to give me a box on the ear; which if he had, his Grave might have been digged in the same place. When I saw the matter grow worse and worse, Mum said I, and went my way a little faster than ordinary, to try if some tall fellow or other durst have followed me that we might have cut one anothers throat; for had I encountered

countred with any of the baser
stamp, and had killed him (as with-
out doubt I had) what honour or
what credit had I gotten? but if the
Captain had come forth, or some
Swash Buck'ler, would have given
him more slashes than there is sand
in the Sea. When I perceived that
none durst follow me, I went away
very well pleased. After that I
sought for a service, and because I
could not find such an one as I
deserve, I am as thou seest me. The
troth is, that I might have been
Butler or Usher to five or six Botcher-
Wives; Offices, that though I were
ready to starve, I would not accept
off. Finally my good Master said that
because he could not meet with
certain Merchants of his Countrey,
who would have lent him money, he
was without it, and knew not whi-
ther to go that night. I that straight
smelt his meaning, invited him to
the half of my bed, and Supper;

The pursuit of the History

which offer he willingly accepted. As we went to Bed, I desired him not to lay his Cloths upon it, because it was too little for so much company. The next morning, thinking to rise without any noise, I reached my hand to my Cloths, but I found *Blancko*: for the Slave had stoln them, and was gone away with them. I thought verily I should have dyed in my Bed for sorrow, and it had been far better for me, for then had I escaped the many deaths, which since I have suffered. I begun to cry as loud as I could. Theives, Theives; which those of the House hearing, came up, and found me as a Swimmer new come out of the water, seeking in every corner of the Chamber something to cover me, They all fell a laughing, as if they had been mad, and I a swearing like a Carman. I gave to the Devil that Theif, and bragging Cheater, who half the night long had kept me awake,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

wake, with telling me the greatness of his person and kindred. All the remedy for that time I could find (no body helping me with a better) was to try if the Garments of that said Braggadocio could fit me, till God had sent me some others. But it was a Labyrinth; they had neither beginning nor ending: there was no difference betwixt Breeches and Jerkin. I thrust my Legs into the Sleeves, and wore the Breeches for a Doublet; not forgetting the Stockings, which seemed to be some Chandlers drawing Sleeves: the Shooes were like Shackles about my Legs, because they wanted Soles. I blockt on the Hat, the Crown downward, because it was left greasie. And as for the Troops that travelled over me on Foot and Horse-back, I let them pass. In this habit went I to my Master, who had sent to call me; who wondering to see such a Skare-crow, fell into such a laughter,

The Pursuit of the History

that his back-strings slackening, he could hold no longer, but made flush; the which (for his credit) it is fitting ones tongue should pass over with silence. After a thousand stops, he asked me the reason of this disguise; I told it him: and thereupon, instead of taking pitty of me, he chid me, and turned me out of doors, saying, That as then I had brought that man into my Bed; so another time, I would do the like with some other, that would rob him.

CHAP. II.

*How Lazaro took shipping at
Cartagena.*

I Alwayses have had a gift, not to stay long with one Master; no more did I with this, though not by my fault. I saw my self forsaken, alone, and distressed; in such plight,
as

as every one would thrust me from him gybing and laughing at me. One would tell me that Hat with a Back-door, is not much amiss; it looks like a Dutch-womans Cap: Another would say, That Doublet is of the fashion, it is like an Hogstye; and the rather seeing your Worship is in it: they run so thick, that he might kill them, and send them salted to the good Lady his wife. A Snapshack-bearer said unto me: 'Fore-God, Sir *Lazaro*, those Stockings make you a very good Calfe. Every one did so scosse and flout me, that I was in mind to return home again, but that I thought, that there would be but poor Wars, if I should not get more than I had lost. That, that grieved me most, was, that they fled from me as from one that were infected. We took shipping at *Cartagena*: the Ship was great, and well provided. They hoisted up the Sailes, and committed them to the

The pursuit of the History

Wind; which carried it, and drove it with great swiftnes. The shore vanished from our sight, and the Sea begun to swell with a contrary Wind, which raised the Billows unto the Clouds. The tempest increased, and our hope diminished, The Mariners and Pilots gave us over: The wailing and weeping was so great, that me thought we were at a *Good-friday* correction. The noise was so great, that nothing of what was commanded, could be understood: The one runned to one place, the other to another: we all seemed Braziers. Every one confessed himself to whom he could: such there were as confessed themselves to a Punk; who gave them the absolution after as good a manner, as if she had exercised the Office many years. It is good angling in a muddy water: When I saw that they were all busie, I said to my self, Dye then, and dye full. And ther: upon I
went

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

went down to the bottom of the Ship, where there was great store of Bread, Wine, Pasties, and Preserves for no body laid so much as what make you here? I began to eat of all, and to fill my belly, that I might have provision enough till Doms-day. In the mean time there came a Souldier to me, desiring me to shryve him: Who, amazed to see me with so good Cheer, and Appetite, asked me, How I could eat, seeing death before mine eyes? I answered him, That I did it for fear lest the Sea-water, which I was to drink in my drowning, should do me any harm. This my simplicity, made him fetch a laugh from his heels. Many confessed themselves to me, not able to utter one true word for grief and fear; nor I to hearken unto them, for hast that I had to fill my self. The Captains and men of note, with two Priests that were there, saved themselves in
the

The pursuit of the History

the Cock-boat, I being ill apparelled could not be received into it. When I had eaten my fill, I went me to a Hogs-head of good Wine, and there pouring down my throat as much as ever I could, I forgot both my self and the Tempest. The Ship overturned and the water came in, as in her home. A Corporal taking hold of both my hands amidst the pangs of death desired me to hear a sin, whereof he would confesse himself unto me, which was, That he had not fulfilled a Pennance which had been enjoyned him, to go on Pilgrimage to our Lady of *Loretta*, having had many opportunities to effect it; and that then, when he would, he could not. I told him, that by the authority which I had received, I did change it him, and that instead of going to our Lady of *Loretta*, he should go to St. *James*. Alas Sir, (said he) how willingly would I accomplish this Pennance; but

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

but already the water begins to get into my mouth, so that I cannot. If it be so, said I again, I enjoin you for your Pennance to drink all the water of the Sea : but he did not execute it by reason that there were others that drunk as much as he. The water coming to my mouth, I cryed out, To another door, for this I cannot open ; and although it had been open, yet could it not have entred, because my body was so full of Wine, that it lookt like a puffed Bladder. At the noise of the crackling of the Ship came a great quantity of Fish, eating the flesh of the wretches that were drowned (and not in a little water) as if they fed in a Common. In the little time that I was a going to the bottom, and coming up again, I saw incredible things : an infinite number of Bones, and Bodies of Men : great store of Coffers full of Money and Jewels, great quantity of Arms, Silks, Linnen,

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hen, and Spices. I had a great mind to all, and it grieved me much, that I had it not all safe at home, with which (as a *Biscay* said) I would eat my Bread printed with *Sardaines*. If I could but get out these riches now, (said I to my self) no Inne-keeper in the World should fare more delicately than I. I would build Houses, establish Revenews, and purchase a Garden in the *Zigarrales*. My Wife shou'd stile her self Lady, and I Lordship: I would marry my Daughter to the richest Cook in my Country. Every one would come and congratulate me, and I would tell them, that I had wrought fairly, drawing my Wealth, not out of the entrails of the Earth, but from the very heart of the Sea: not wet with sweat, but through wet with water, as any dried *Poor John*. In all my life I was never so content as then: not considering, that if I opened my mouth, I should

Zigarrales
is a place
in Toledo,
where
there are
very plea-
sant Gar-
dens.

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

should remain there buried with the Treasure, for ever and a day.

CHAP. III.

How Lazaro came out of the Sea.

SEeing my self so near unto my end, I feared; and so nigh the Treasure, I rejoyced; Death affrighted me, the Treasure delighted me. To shun that, since I could not enjoy this, I rent off from my back the raggs that the Squire my Master had left me, for the good service which I had done him, and began to swim, (though I had but very little skill therein) Necessity giving Wings to my feet, and Oars to my hands. I know not how; a Cord fastned about my foot, which (as far as I could perceive) was tyed to a great Chest (withoutdoubt, full of Jewels) which though I could, I would not unloosen;

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unloosen; imagining, whether my former thoughts might not have bin some prophecy. But such was my bad luck, that if all the prophecies in the World had promised me yet some happy and constant fortune yet none of them had come to pass. As the Cord lengthened, my hopes and ambition encreased, believing that if I could but come ashore with it, I would draw and pull out of the Sea that great Chest, wherewith *Lazaro* should be more wealthy, and more respected, than *Prester John* of the *Indies*. The Fishes which were about me, came to bite me, thrusting me forward with their bobs, which were to me as a stirrop: and so they jogging & I kicking, we came almost to the top of the water, where there befell me a chance, which was cause of all my misfortune. The Fishes and I ran into a Net, which certain Fishermen had cast forth: who feeling a Draught, drew it up with such violence

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

violence (and the water with no less, beginning to enter into me) that unable to resist, I began to drown, and could not have escaped, if the Saylers (according to their accustomed haste) had not drawn up the prey into their Boat. The Devil take that filthy favour: in all my life time I never drunk worse stuffe; it tasted somewhat like the worshipful Arch-priest his piss, which once my wife made me drink, telling me it was Wine of *Ocana*. *Ocana* a City in Spain where very good wine is made, Having put into the Boat the Fishes, and I among them, they began to draw the Cord by the which (as it is said) they pulled up the bottom: they found me tyed at it, whereat much amazed, they said, What Fish is this, that hath the face of a man? Is it not some Devil or some Spirit? But let us draw this Rope and see what Clogg hangs at the heels. Then fell they a hailing and tugging, with such might and main, that they

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The Goths
were the
first Kings
of Spain,
from
whence
when a
man is
termed
rich and
great, he
is said to
be of the
Goths.

they had like to have sunk the Boat:
Perceiving the danger, they present-
ly cut the Rope and with it, the
hopes of *Lazaro*, of ever attaining to
the greatness of the *Goths*. They
held my head downward, that I
might the better cast out the water,
as also the Wine, which I had drunk.
They perceived, that I was not dead,
(which had not been the worst for
me) and gave me a little Wine, with
the which, (as a Lamp with Oyl) I
came again to my self. They asked
me a hundred Questions, but I an-
swered to none of them, until such
a time as they gave me some Meat.
Then recovering breath, the first
thing that I asked them, was for the
Clogg which I dragged at my foot:
They answered me, that they had
cut it, to save themselves from the
danger wherein they were. There
did *Tro* lose her life, and *Lazaro* his
well-placed desires: there began
his pains, griefs and torments. There
is

is no greater vexation in the World;
than to have been rich, and elevated
to the horns of the Moon; and
afterward, to become poor, and
subject to fools. All my *Chimeraes*
were built upon the water; and in
an instant it drowned them all. Then
did I relate unto the Fishermen, what
both they and I had lost, by cutting
off my Jeiles: which when they un-
derstood, they were so grieved, that
one of them had like to run mad.
But one of the gravest among them
said, That it would be good to turn
me again into the Sea, and to stay
there for me, until I came forth
again: They were all of his opinion;
and, notwithstanding all the incon-
veniencies which I represented unto
them, they persisted in their delibe-
ration, saying, That since I knew the
way, it would be an easie thing for me
(as if it had bin no more than to go to
a Cooks Shop, or to a Tavern.) They
were so blinded with covetousness,

N

that

The pursuit of the History

that already they would have thrown me over board : if my good, or rather bad fortune, had not brought to the place where we were, another Boat, which came to carry away their Draught. Wherefore they held their peace, lest the others should know of the Treasure which they had discovered, and were constrained for that time, to desist from their cruel intention. They brought their Boats to the shore, and hastily threw me among the Fishes, with intent to return to seek me again, when conveniently they might. Then two of them took me, & secretly carried me to a little Cottage not far from thence : One (that knew not the mystery) asked them what was that : They answered, That it was a Monster which they had taken with the Tinnies. When I saw my self in the Lodges, I desired them to give me some raggs, or other, to cover my nakedness, but I might shew my self before men :

That

That shall be (answerd they) when the Reckoning is made with the Hostess; but I understood not (at that present) that kind of language. The fame of the Monster did spread it self throughout all the Country, so that much people came to the Cottage for to see me; But the Fisher-men would not shew me saying, That they expected a Licence from the Bishop and Inquisitors to that end; until when, they desired to be excused. I was amazed, not knowing what to say, or do, little imagining what their intention was. It was with me as with Cuckolds, who are the last that know that they are such. These Devils found out an invention, the Devil himself could not have invented the like; which requireth a new Chapter, and new attention.

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CHAP. IV.

*How Lazaro was carried through
all Spain.*

Occasion makes the thief; which the Fishermen seeing to offer it self so fair unto them, took hold of, not only by the fore-top, but by the whole body. For perceiving that so great number of the people came to see the new Fish, they determined to recompence themselves of the loss that they had made, in cutting the Rope from my foot; and therefore they send to demand a Licence of the Inquisitors, to shew over all *Spain* a Fish, that had a mans face. They obtained it very easily, by means of a Present which they made to their Lordships, of the best Fish they had taken. When then the good *Lazaro* was giving thanks to God, that he had drawn him out of a
Fishes

Fishes belly (which was a miracle,
by so much the greater, by how
much my skill and cunning was the
less, swimming like a Bar of Iron)
four of them (who seemed rather
Executioners, such as crucified
Christ, than men) came and took me
up, and binding my hands behind
my back, put me on a Bare, not for-
getting the great Mustachios, and a
Periwig made of Moss, that made
me shew like a wild man in a Gar-
den. They wrapped up my feet in
Flags, as a Trout of the Mountains,
I bewailed my mishap, I sighed, com-
plaining of my Destiny. O Fortune
(said I) why dost thou persecute
me thus? In all my life I never saw
nor knew thee: but if by the effects,
one may judge of the cause, by the
tryal which already I have had of
thee, I am verily perswaded, that no
Syren, Basiliske, Viper, or Lionness
with whelps, is more cruel than
thou art. Thou raisest men by thy

The best
Trouts in
Spain are
taken in
the Springs
of Rivers
in the
Mountains,
from
whence
they are
brought
wrapped
up in flags
for fear of
spoyling.

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flatteries, and cherishings, to the highest of thy delights and riches, and from thence dost hurl them headlong into the depth of all miseries and calamities, by so much the greater, by how much thy favours have been great. One of these my tormentors hearing my complaint, with a Carter-like voice said to me, If Master Tunny speak but a word more, he shall presently be salted with his Companions, or be burned for a Monster: The Lords of the Inquisition (continued he) have ordained, that we carry him thorow all the Cities and Places of Spain, to make him be seen of all men, as a Prodigie, and Monster of Nature. I swore and vowed unto them, that I was neither Tunny, Monster, nor any such thing, but as good a man as any neighbours Child whatsoever: and that if I was come out of the Sea, it was by reason I had fallen into it, among those that were drowned, going

ing

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

ing to the Wars of *Argiers*. But they were deaf and so much the more, that they were not minded to understand me. Seeing that my prayers were as vainly spent, as Suds about an Asses face; I put on patience, expecting till time, that procreth all, should cure my anguish, proceeding from those cursed Metamorphoses. They put me in a half Tub, made after the fashion of a Brigantine, full of Water, so that sitting in it, it came up to my Lips. I could not stand upon my feet, for they were tyed with a Rope, whereof one end came out through a Leaden pipe, put between the hoops and boards of the said Tub, in such sort, that if by mischance I grunted never so little, in pulling only the Rope, they made me plunge (like a Duck) and drink more water than one that hath the Dropsie. I shut my mouth close, till such time as he that pulled the Rope, had slackened it;

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substantial, for the coldness thereof gave me a Lask which lasted, as long as I continued in that watery Purgatory.

CHAP. V.

How Lazaro was carried to the Court.

THese Extortioners carried me from City to City, from Town to Town, and from Farm to Farm, more jocund with their gain, than the Earth with May-flowers? and flowring poor Lazaro, thus did sing:

*Long life and health God grant
unto the Fish,*

*Who (without working) doth
maintain our dish.*

The Hearse wherein I was, was carried upon a Cart, and attended by three; the Carman, he that drew the cord when I did offer to speak; and

and he that related my life: who likewise made the speeches, telling the strange means they had used to catch me, and lying more confidently than any Taylor upon an Easter Eve. When we travelled through uninhabited places, they suffered me to speak; which was the greatest courtesy I received of them. I asked them what Devil had put it into their heads, to carry me up and down after such a manner in a Tub? They answered me, That if they had not done so, I would have dyed presently; for being (as I was) a Fish, they knew I could not live out of the Water. Seeing them so confident, I determined to be one; and so I perswaded my self, since that every one esteemed me so: believing, that the Sea-water might have transformed me, (the voice of the people being according to the Proverb, the voice of God) so that from thence forward I was as silent as if I had

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had been at Mals. They brought me to the court, where their gain was great, the followers thereof being very desirous of novelties, as men that live in perpetual idleness. Among many that came to see me, there were two Schollars, who considering more exactly my Physiogony, said in a low voice, That they durst swear upon a Book, that I was no Fish, but a Man; and that if they had been in any charge of Justice, they would have sifted out the naked truth, with a Whip on their naked shoulders. I prayed to God in my mind that they would do it, so that I might have been freed from thence: and thereupon I thought to help them forwards, saying, the Gentlemen Scholars are in the right. But scarce had I opened my mouth, when my continel had popped it under water. The shouting that all the people kept when I ducked myself (or rather they ducked me) hindered

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*:

dred the good Licentiates to proceed any further in their discourse. They threw me bread, and I gobbled it up before I could be threw wet, but they gave me not half so much as I could have eaten. Then I remembered the plenty that I had in *Toledo*, and my good friends the *German*s, and what good wine I was wont to cry, beseeching God not to suffer me to dye by water my greatest enemy. After that I entred into consideration of what the Students had said, which by reason of the noise, no body had understood, and confirmed my self in the opinion that I was a man, and from thence forward I held my self to be one, although my Wife had oftentimes told me that I was a Beast, and the boys of *Toledo* were wont to say unto me, Good M. *Lazara*, pull your Hat down lower upon your forehead, for one may see your horns; and their carrying of me thus in pickle, had made

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made me doubt whether I were a perfect man, or no. But as soon as I heard these blessed and quick-sighted Overseers speak, I made no more doubt of it, but sought means to free my self from the hands of those *Chaldeans*. One night, in the dearest time, seeing my Guards fast asleep, I tryed to unbind my self: but by reason that the cords were wet, it was impossible for me, I thought, to cry out, but I considered that it would avail me nothing, for the first of them that should hear me, would have stopped my mouth with a pottle of water. Seeing this gave birth to my remedy, with great impatience I began to tumble and wallow in my mire, and at length, with my tossing and struggling, I overthrew the Tub and my self withal, spilling all the water. When I saw my self free, I began to call out for help. The Eithemmen awaking, amazed to see what I had done, came

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

in hast to relieve me, by stopping my mouth and cramming it with Grass: and the better to confound my exclamations; they likewise with a lowder strain fell a crying, help, help; and amidst this hurly-burly, they ran to a well hard by, and with an incredible diligence filled up the Tub again. The Host came forth with a Halbert, and all those of the House, some with Spirs, and some with Poles. The Neighbours came running in, & a Bayliffe with his associates, that were passing that way. The Inn-keeper asked the Saylers what the matter was; who answered; that thieves would have stolen away their Fish; which he hearing, (as if he had been mad) fell a crying out, Thieves, Thieves. Some watched if they would steal out at the door; others looked, if they did not climb from one house to another: But already my Keepers had returned me into my Bath. It happened, that the
v. 1. b. Water

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Water which had been spilled, ran all thorow a hole into a lower Chamber, upon the bed where the Daughter of the house did lye, who moved with charity, had afforded part of it to a Priest, who for her sake was come to lodge there that night. They were so scared with the deluge of water that fell upon their bed, and with the outcries and noise that every one did make, that not knowing what shift to make, they threw themselves out of a Window as naked as *Adam* and *Eve*. Now did the Moon shine so bright, that she might have entred in comparison with him from whom she doth receive her brightness. As soon as they saw them, they cryed out, there be the Theives, stop the Theives. The Baylisfe and his assistanes ran after them, and overtook them not far from thence, (by reason that being bare footed, the stones did hinder their speed) and without any delay

delay carried them to Prison. The Fishermen the next morning very early took leave of *Madrid* to go to *Toledo*, not knowing what was become of the kind-hearted Wench, and the devout Priest.

CHAP. VI.

How Lazaro was carried to Toledo.

THE Industry of Men is vain, their Knowledge Ignorance; & their might Impotency; when God doth not strengthen, direct, and guide them. My labour served only to increase the care and sollicitude of my Jaylor; who angry for their last nights Alarme, gave me so many Bastinadoes by the way, that they left me almost for dead, saying, Accursed Fish, would you have been gone? Do you not acknowledge the great good one doth you in not killing you? you are as the Oake, that yieldeth not his fruit without

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cudgeling. After this manner, bruised, upbraided, and almost dead for hunger, they entred me into *Toledo*, and lodged themselves hard by a place called the *Zocodiler*, at a Widdow's House, whose Wine I was wont to cry. They put me in a lower Room, where a multitude of people came to see me, and among others, my *Elvira*, holding my Daughter by the hand. When I saw them, I could not but give way to two Niles of tears that gushed out of mine eyes. I wept and sighed, but within my self, for fear they should deprive me of what I so much loved, and of the sight of that, which I desired to have a thousand eyes to see, though it had been better, that those who hindred my speech had also taken from me my visible faculty. For looking earnestly upon my Wife, I saw her. I know not if I may speak it) I saw her with a belly mounted to her mouth. I was amazed

zed and astonished, although (had I been in my right wits) I had had no great cause : for the Arch-priest, my Master, had told me, when I went to the Wars, that he would deal with her as if she had been his own. But what most vexed me was, that I could not perswade my self that she was with Child by me, having been absent above a year. Indeed when I dwelt with her, and that we were at Bed and Board together, and that she would say to me, *Lazaro*, do not believe that I am false to thee ; for so doing, thou doest wondrous ill : I was so well satisfied, that I abhorred to conceive an evil thought of her, even as the Devil doth of Holy-water ; I lived jovial, content, and without jealousie, the disease of fools. I have oftentimes considered with my self, that this matter of Children doth chiefly consist in imagination : for how many are there, that love such as they think to be

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theirs, who indeed belong to them no otherwise, than by name and number? and others, who (for certain *Chimeraes* forged in their brains, that their Wives have grafted upon their heads the punishment of *Adcom* temerity) do hate and abhor those that be their own? I began to reckon the months and days, but I found the way stopt to my comfort. I thought whether my dear Bedfellow were not sick of the Dropsie; but that pious imagination lasted me but very little: for as soon as she was gone forth, two old Gossips began to say one to another, What think you of the Arch-priestess? she hath no want of her Husband. Who hath got her with Child, asked the other? Who? replied the first, Marry, the reverend Arch-priest, who is so good, that (for to give no scandal, if she could be delivered in his house, without having a Husband) he doth marry her the next Sunday

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Sunday to *Peter Gabacho*, who will be as patient as my Gossip *Lazaro*. That was the Touchstone, and *Non plus ultra* of my patience; it began to overcome my heart: So that sweating within the water, and unable to help my self, I fell down in a swoon within the Hog-stie. The water then entering again through all the passages, without any resistance, I appeared to be dead (much against my will, which was, to live as long as it would please God, and I should be able in spight of *Galicians*, and all cross Fortune. The Fishermen very heavy, caused all that were there, to go out, and in all haste lifted my head out of the water; but they found that I was without pulse or breath, as they themselves were for very grief, bewailing their loss, which to them was none of the least. They took me out of the Tub, and did what they could to make me vomit that which I had swallowed;

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but all in vain, for death (as they thought) had already shut the door after her. They remained blank (as at a running Lottery) not knowing any remedy, nor how to ease their grief. It was at last decreed by the Council of three, that the night following they should carry me to the River, and should there throw me in, with a stone about my neck; to make that my Grave, which had been the instrument of my death.

CHAP. VII.

*What happened to Lazaro upon the way
to the River Tagus.*

LET no man despair, how afflicted soever he seeth himself; for when he shall least expect it, God will open the gates and windows of his mercy, and shew that nothing is impossible unto him; and that he can and will change the
the

the designs of the wicked into
wholesome and comfortable reme-
dies, for such as put their trust in
him. These Knaves in grain think-
ing that Death did not jest, (whose
custom is little so to do) put me into
a Sack, and laying me overthwart
a Mule, as a Goats-skin of Wine, or
rather of Water, being full thereof
to the very mouth) took their way
down the Hill of the Carmelites, more
sorrowful than if they had been go-
ing to bury the Father that begot
them, or the Mother that bare them.
It was my good fortune, when they
put me upon the Mule, to be laid
upon my stomack and belly; so that
going with my mouth downward, I
began to cast out Water, as if a Sluce-
gate had been opened, or as if I had
been the Fish * *Frago*, by means
whereof I came again to my self; and
gathering breath, I perceived I was
out of that accursed Water-rub: but
I neither knew where I was, nor

In Spain
they use to
carry Wine
or Water
upon Mules
or Horses,
in Goates
or Calves
skins, fitted
to that pur-
pose, which
they call
Caques.
* *Frago*
with the
Spaniard is
a Fish that
out of his
mouth doth
sometimes
cast so
much wa-
ter, that it
is able to
drown a
Boat.

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whither they carried me, Only I
heard them say, It is best for our
safety to seek out some Pit very
deep, that he may not be found so
soon. By the thred I recovered the
needle, and imagining presently
what the manner was, and seeing the
Crow could be no blacker than his
wings, hearing a noise of people
thereabouts, I began to cry out,
Help, for the Lord's sake. The stir
I heard was the watch, who came in-
stantly to my out-cry with their na-
ked swords and ransacking the
Sack, found poor Lazaro through
soaked, as a green Fish. They car-
ried us all, as they found us to the
Goal, the Fishermen weeping to see
themselves prisoners, and I laughing
being at liberty. They put them in-
to a Dungeon, and me in a good bed.
The next day being examined, They
confessed, indeed they had carried
me up and down through Spain: but
that they had done it, believing I
was

of Lazarello de Tormes.

was a Fish; and to that effect they had obtained a Licence of the Lords of the Inquisition. For my part, I told the truth, and how those Rascalls held me bound, and put me in to such a posture, as I was not able so much as to grunt. They brought in the Arch-priest, and my good *Elaina*, to prove if it were true that I were that *Lazaro de Tormes*, whom I said I was. My wife entred the first, and earnestly beholding me, said, That the truth was, I somewhat resembled her good Husband; but she believed I was not he; for though I had always been a great Beast, I was more likely to become a Gnat, or an Oxe, than a Fish. Having thus said, making a low currie, she went forth. My Hangmans Attourney required, that I might be burn'd, because without doubt I was a Monster, which he did bind himself to prove. The Devil I am as soon, (said I to my self) unless some Con-
jurer

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juror now should persecute me, transforming me into what he listed. The Judges commanded him to be silent. Then came in the reverend Arch-priest, who seeing me so bleak, and wrimples, like an old Wives belly, said, That he neither knew me by my face nor shape. I then remembered him of some old passages, and many secrets that had passed between us; particularly I bid him remember the night that he came naked unto my bed, saying, that he was afraid of a Hob-goblin that haunted his Chamber, and laid himself between my Wife and me. He for fear I should have proceeded any further in tokens, confessed it to be true, that I was *Lazaro*, his good friend and Servant. The suit ended with the testimony of the Captain that had carried me from *Toledo*, (and was one of those that escaped the tempest in the Cock-boat) who acknowledged, that I was
in

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

in person *Lazaro* his Servant; and all this did agree with the relation of the time and place where the Fishermen said they had caught me. They condemned every one of them to two hundred stripes, and their goods confiscated, the one part to the King, the other to the Prisoners, and the third to *Lazaro*. They were found to have two thousand Ryals, ^{Fifty pounds.} two Mules, and a Cart; of the which (all duties and charges paid) there fell to my share twenty Duckats. The Sailers remained bare and comfortless, and I rich and content; for in all my life before I had not seen my self Master of so much money at once. I went to the house of one of my friends: where, after I had powred down my Throat some Gallons of Wine, to wash away the evil favour of the Water, and put my self into good Cloths, I began to walk like an Earl, faring like a King, honoured of my friends, scared of

A Ducket
is five
shillings six
pence of
our money

The pursuit of the History

of mine enemies, and welcome to
all. The miseries I passed, seemed to
me a Dream; the present happiness,
a Haven of rest; the future hopes,
a Paradise of pleasure. Adversity
doth humble, prosperity puff up the
mind. All the time the twenty
Duckats lasted, if the King had cal-
led me Cousin, I had taken it for an
affront. When we Spaniards can get
a Ryak, we are Princes; and though
we want it, we do not want pre-
sumption. If you ask a shake-rag
who he is, he will answer that (at the
least) he is descended from the
Goths, and his bad fortune hath thus
dejected him; being the property
of the foolish world, to elevate the
base, and debase the worthy: and
yet such as he is, he would not yield
to any, nor esteem himself less than
the greatest; and would rather
starve, than put himself to any
Trade; or if he doth, it is with such
contempt and distaste, that either he
will

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

will not work at all; or if he doth, it is so ill, that hardly in all Spain shall one find a good workman of a *Spaniard*. I remember there was a *Cobler* in *Salamanca*, who when one did bring him any thing to mend, would make a long discourse to himself, complaining of his evil fortune, that had reduced him to the necessity of working in so base a Trade, being descended from such a House, and from such Parents, who for their worth were known over all *Spain*. He asked one day a Neighbour of his, of what kindred that *Bragadocio* was. He told me, his Father was a treader of Grapes in Vintage time, a Hog-killer in Winter, his Mother a Tripe-washer, I mean a Tripe-wives maid. I had bought a Suite of old peeld Velvet, a long thred bare Cloak of *Sergo-via* Serge; I wore my sword so long that the Chape unpaved the Stones of the streets as I walked. When I came out of prison, I would not go

In Spain and other Countries to make their Wines they put their Grapes into great Tubs, into which men go barelegd, and sometimes naked to tread the Grapes to press forth the juyce.

see

The pursuit of the History

see my Wife ; to give her a greater
desire to see me, and to be revenged
of the scorn that she had made of
me. I believed undoubtedly, that
seeing me so well apparelled, she
would repent her self, and receive
me with open arms ; but obstinate
she was, and obstinate she remained.
I found her in Child-bed, and new-
ly married. When she saw me she
cried out as if she had been mad,
Take from before me that ill water-
ed. First, that face of a new pluckt
Goose, or by the blessedness of my
dead Fathers soul, if I rise, I will
scratch out his eyes. I, with a great
deal of slegm, answered her, Fair
and softly, (good Mrs. Wagtale) if
you know me not for your Husband,
nor I you for my Wife, let me have
my Daughter, and as good friends as
ever before, for I have got where-
with to marry her very honourably.
Me thought those twenty Duckats
should have been like little John of
God's

God's five blanks; who, as soon as he had spent them, found five other still in his purse: but with me, as was *Lazarillo* of the Devil, it fell out otherwise, as shall appear in the next Chapter. The Arch-priest opposed himself against my demand, saying, That she was not mine; and for proof thereof, he shewed me the Church-book for Christnings, which compared with the Register of Marriages, it appeared, that the Girl was born four months after that I first carnally knew my Wife. My man *Thomas* fell down, who till then had been on Horse-back, and I perceived the errour in the which I had lived until that time, believing her to be my Daughter, that was not so, I shook upon them the dust of my shooes, and washed my hands in token of innocency, and of parting for ever, and so I turned my back unto them, with as much comfort as if I had never known them. I went

Twelve
Blanks
make an
English
peny.

100 to

The pursuit of the History

to seek some of my friends, to whom
I related the whole matter: they
comforted me; which was a thing
very easie for them to do. I would
not return to the Office of common
Crier, for my Velvet had rooted out
such petty thoughts. Going towards
the Gate, call'd *Kilagra*, as I passed
through that of *S. John of the Kings*,
I met with an old acquaintance of
mine; who after he had saluted me,
told me how that my Wife was
grown more gentle, since she had un-
derstood that I had money; parti-
cularly that, that *Gabacho* had as
good as new dressed her from top to
toe. I desired her to let me under-
stand the business. She did it, saying,
that Mr. Arch-priest and my Wife
had entred one day into consultati-
on, whether it were best to take me
home again to them, and turn out
that *Gabacho*; bringing reasons on
the one side, and on the other. This
their consulting was not so secret;
but

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

but that the new Husband heard of it : who dissembling, the next morning went out to work at the Olive trees, whither his Wife and mine at noon did go to carry him his dinner. He then bound her fast to a Tree, and having stripped her stark naked, gave her there above a hundred stripes; and not content with that, made a bundle of all her Coaths, and pulling her Rings off her fingers, ran away withal, leaving her bound, naked, and in a pitiful case: where (without doubt) she had died if the Arch-priest had not sent to seek her. She went on, saying, that she believed without all peradventure, that if I sent but any one to intreat them, they would receive me to them as before: for she had heard my *Elvira* say, Wretched that I am, why did I not admit my good *Lazaro*, who was even as good as the good Bread; not hard to please, not scrupulous, who suffered me to do

P

what-

The pursuit of the History.

whatsoever I would ? That was a touch, which turned me topsie turvy, and made me resolve to follow the Counsel of the good old Woman : Nevertheless, I thought good first to confer of it with my friends.

CHAP. VIII.

How Lazaro pleaded against his Wife.

WE Men (and Women much more) are somewhat a kin to laying Hens ; for if we mind to do any good , we presently proclaim and kackle it abroad : but if evil, we will not that any one know it, lest they should dissuade us from that, from the which it were good we should be diverted. I went to see one of my friends, and I found three together, for since I had money, they were multiplyed as flies in the Fruit season. I told them my intention and desire, which was to go and live again

again with my Wife, and shun the
flandering speeches of malevolent
tongues a known evil being better
than an unknown good. But they
made the deed so hainous and odi-
ous unto me, telling me, that I was
a man without either black in my
eyes, or brains in my head, that I
would go to dwell with a Punk, a
Cockatrice, a Cat a mountain, and
lastly, the Devils Hackney (for so in
Toledo do they call Priests Wenches.)
They said such and so many things
to me, and so perswaded me, that I
determined neither to intreat her,
nor to seek to her. These my good
friends (I would the Devil had had
them) seeing that their Counsel and
perswasions had wrought with me,
proceeded farther, saying, That they
counsell'd me (because I was so dear
unto them) to take away the spots,
and cleanse the stains of my reputa-
tion; to stick close to it, and not let
it fall to the ground: And therefore

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that I should exhibit a complaint in Law against the Arch-priest and my Wife; for all should cost me neither penny, nor farthing, they being (as they were) Officers of Justice. The one (who was an Atturney for lost Suits) offered me a hundred duckets for my gettings. The other, as better experimented (being a Solicitor for Traders) told me , That if he were in my Coat, he would not give my gains for two hundred. The third assured me, That (as he did well know, being as he was a Serjeant) he had seen other cases, not so plain, and a great deal doubtfuller than this, that had been worth to the undertakers an innumerable sum; although he believed, that upon the first Writ, the good *Domine Bacchalaure* would fill my hands, and grease theirs, that we might give over the Suit, desiring that I would return again to my Wife: which would be much more honourable and

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

and profitable for me, than if I had made means unto her. They so highly commended this business unto me, alluring me with fair and great hopes, that they brought me to what they would, not knowing how to answer their sophistical arguments. Howbeit, I know, that it was better to forgive and humble my self, than to prosecute things to the extremities, fulfilling the most difficult Commandement of God, To love our enemies. And then, my Wife did never behave her self like an enemy towards me : contrariwise, by her I began to grow into credit, and to be known of many, who would point at me with their finger, saying, There goes patient *Lazaro* : by her I began to have an Office and Benefice. If the Daughter, which the Arch priest said was none of mine, were so or no : God who searcheth the reins, best knows, and it may be, that as I may have

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been mistaken, he likewise might have been deceived. As it may happen, that some one, who reading this simplicity of mine, will burst out into such laughter, as he may chance to moisten the Linings of his breeches; doth maintain the Children of some reverend Frier; and doth labour, sweat, and moil, to leave them rich that begger him of his reputation; believing for certain, that if there be one honest woman in the World, it is his. And moreover, it may be, that the Pedegree whereof thou doest boast (gentle Reader) as is derived from *Mars*, is deducted from *Vulcan*. But leaving every one in his good opinion, all these good considerations did not withstand, but that I formed a complaint against the Arch-priest, and against my Wife: and (having ready money) within four and twenty hours they put them into prison; him, into the Arch-bishops, and her into

into the common Jail. The Lawyers did bid me, not to regard the money that I did lay out for that business, by reason that I should recover it all again of the *Domine*. So that for to do him more harm, and that the charges might be so much the greater, I gave them whatsoever they did ask me. And because they smelt my Cash, as Bees do Honey, they were so careful and diligent to run to and fro, not making one idle step, that in less than eight days the Cause was very forward, and my Purse very backward. The Evidences were produced with great facility, by reason that the Serjeants that had Arrested them, had taken them napping; and even as they were in their shirts, had carried them to prison. The witnesses were many, and their depositions true. But my honest Atturney, Counsellour, and Register, perceiving my Purse to be at an ebb, began to grow so careless

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and lazy, that to have made them advance one step, they had needed more spurring than any Hackney Jade. When the Arch-priest and his friends understood our great neglect, they began to crow up, and grow peart, greasing the hands and feet of their Agents; being like the weights of a Clock, which do mount proportionally as the others go down. They took such a course, that within a fortnight after they came out of prison upon Bail; and within less than a week more, by means of false witnesses, they made poor *Lazaro* be condemned to ask pardon, pay all charges and to be banisht for ever out of *Toledo*. I demanded pardon, as it was most just he should, who with twenty Crowns had undertaken to go to Law against him that measured them by Pecks. I gave all to my very shirt to help to pay the charges, going out with my bare skin to my banishment. I saw
my

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

my self in one instant rich, at Law
with one of the powers of the holy
Church of *Toledo* (an enterprile
only for a *Prince*) respected of my
friends feared of mine enemies, and
in the predicament of a Gentleman,
that would not suffer an affront; and
in the same instant I found my self
cast (not out of the Earthly paradise,
my private nakedness obumbrated
with *Fig-leaves*, but) out of the
place which I most loved and esteem-
ed; where I had received so much
good entertainment, so many plea-
sures. My nudity being covered with
certain Rags that I found upon a
Dunghill, I betook me to the com-
mon comfort of the distressed; be-
lieving, that since I was at the lowest
of *Fortun's Wheel*, necessarily (at
her turning) I was again to rise. At
that time I remembred what once I
had heard my Master the Blind man
say, (who when he did set himself a
preaching, would do wonders.) That
all

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all the men in the World did ascend and descend by the wheel of Fortune; some following her motion, others going against it: this only difference being between them, that those that went with the stream, with the same swiftness that they did climb up, with the same they do tumble down: and those that go against it, if once they attained unto the top, (though with great pains and labour) they maintained themselves there a long time. I, like the former, did run the smooth way of her wheel, but with such swiftness, that I scarce yet was come to the top, when she threw me into the bottomless pit of all calamities. I saw my self a Begger, even of the most beggerly, having until then been one of a better stamp; and might well have said, Naked did I come into the world, and naked do I go out, I neither win nor lose. In this pickle I took my way towards

Madrid,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Madrid craving the charitable benevolence of well disposed persons, as one that best could do it; for *I was a Miller, to which Trade, I to return by need was made.* I made my moan to every one: some did pitty me, others did laugh at me, and others did give me their alms; so that having neither Wife nor Daughter to maintain, I had often meat and drink to spare: that year such store of wine had been gathered, that almost at every door I came to, they would ask me if I would drink, because they had no bread to give me; I never refused it: so that sometimes it hath been my chance, before breakfast, to have gulped up four pottles of wine, wherewith I was more jocund and merry than School-boys upon an holiday-Eve. If I may speak what I think, the beggers life is the only life; all the others do not deserve that name. If rich men had but tryed it, they would forsake their riches

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riches for it, as the ancient Philosophers did ; who, for to enjoy it, left what they possessed ; I say, for to enjoy it : for the Philosophers life and the Beggars is all one ; only they are distinguished, in that the Philosophers did forsake what they had for the love of it ; and the Beggars without forsaking any thing, do find it. They did despise their wealth, that with less impediments they might contemplate both natural and divine things, with the Celestial motions : these, that they may (uncurbed) run through the fields of their loose appetites. They did cast their goods into the Sea ; these do bury them in their stomachs. They did despise them as perishable and transitory things ; these do not esteem them, because they carry with them care and labour, things altogether out of their element. So that the Beggars life is quieter than either that of King, Emperour,

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

perour, or Pope. In it therefore did I mean to walk, as in a way most free, less dangerous, and very delightful.

CHAP. IX.

*How Lazaro d. d make himself a
Porter.*

THere is no Trade, Science, nor Art, but, to attain to the perfection thereof, it is needful to imploy the capacity, of the best understanding in the World. You shall have a Shoemaker, that hath been thirty years at his Trade, if you bid him make you a pair of shoes broad at the toes, high of instep, neat, and without puckering; do you think he will do it? before he make you a pair such as you desire, he will spoil your foot. Ask a Philosopher, why Flies upon a white thing do mure black, and contrariwise, upon a black,

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black, white; and you will make him blush, like a Maid upon her Marriage night, not knowing how to answer; or if he do to this, he will not to a thousand other fooleries. It was my chance to meet near to *Mescas*, an arch Rogue, and by his countenance perceiving what he was, I paced towards him as to an Oracle, to enquire of him how I might govern my self in my new life, without bringing my self within the compass of the Law. He answered me, That if I meant cleanly to come off, and without danger, his counsel was, that I should joyn to the life of an Hypocrite; that is to say, that though I were a Rogue in profession, yet (not to seem so) I should give my self to some employment, as to skultery in a Kitchen, to cry Brooms, to sweep Chimnies, to scrape Trenchers, or to carry Burthens from one place to another; which would serve as a Buckler to cover my
Beg-

*Mescas, a
City be-
tween
Madrid
and Tole-
do.*

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Beggery. He told me moreover, that by reason that he had not done so since these twenty years that he followed that Occupation, he had the day before received two hundred stripes as a Rogue and a Vagabond. This advise pleased me, and I followed his Counsel. As soon as I came to *Madrid*, I got me a Porters Cord, with the which I quartered my self in the midst of the Market-place, with more content than a starved Cat with Gibblets. And in good time, and happy hour, the first that did set me to work, was a Maid (God forgive me, for I lye) of some eighteen years of age, that simpered more than a new veyled Nun. She bad me follow her, and led me through so many streets, that I thought she had undertaken it as a task, or that she did it to abuse me. At length we came to an house, which, by the Wicket thereof, great Court, and and Wenches that danced

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ced there, I knew to be the publick Brothel. Then did she bring me into her Cell; where she asked me, if I would be paid for my pains before we went out: I answered her, that there was no hast, until we came to the place where I was to carry my burthen, which I took up, and set forward to the Gate of *Guadalachara*, where she told me she was to take Waggon, to go to the Fair of *Nagera*. The Fardle was light, most part thereof being nothing but little Sawcers, Bottles with Painting, and Waters. As we went, I understood how she had been eight years of that Trade. The first that did set me abroad (said she) was the Father Rector of the Jesuits of *Sevil*, where I was born; who did it with so great devotion, that from that day to this, I have been very devout. He recommended me to one of the holy Women, devoted to their Order, with whom I remained above six months,

Those
Women
are called
Beata.

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

months well provided of all things necessary. I was drawn thence by a Captain, and so have roved up and down from one place to another, and am where thou seest. And would to God I had never departed out of the protection of that good Father, who entertained me as his Daughter, and loved me as his Sister. Finally, I have been constrained to follow an Occupation, to get my living. With this discourse we came to the Waggon, which was ready to set forth. I discharged my burden into it, and praying her to pay me for my labour, the Wag-tail answered, That I will very willingly; and with that, lifting up her hand, she gave me such a box on the ear, that she felled me to the ground, saying, art thou such an Ass, as to ask money of one of my profession; Did I not bid thee, before thou camest out of the house of fellowship, to pay thy self, if thou

Q wouldst,

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wouldst, upon me? With that (as nimbly as a Grass-hopper) she leaped into the Waggon, and away she went, and left me fretted at the heart, and as blank as a Bell-founder, not knowing what ayled me, only I considered with my self, that if the progress of my new Trade did follow the beginning, I should thrive fairly at the years end. Upon my departure thence, there came another waggon from *Acala de Henares*; out of the which the passengers (who were all Whores, scholars, and Friars) being alighted, one of the Order of *St. Francis*, asked me, if I would do him that charity, as to carry his Truss to his Convent. I answered him with chearfulness, that I would, for I perswaded my self, that he would not cousin me, as that Drab had done, therefore I took it up, and it was so heavy, that I could scarce carry it: yet for the hope of my good pay, I strained my self. Being

A City in
Spain.

ing come to the Cloyster very weary, because it was far, the Friet took his pack, and saying, For Gods sake be it done, went in, and shut the door after him. I waited there until he should come to pay me ; but seeing that he did tarry long, I knocked at the gate. The Porter came forth, and asked me what I would have ; I told him, My payment for the burthen which I had brought. He answered me, that I should go in Gods name, for they never paid any thing, and so locked the door, charging me to knock no more, by reason it was a time of silence ; for if I did he would give me an hundred lacerings with his knotty girdle. My courage was cooled. A poor man that stood at the Gate said to me ; Brother, you may well go your way, for these Fathers do handle no money, for they live all together upon other mens dishes. Let them live upon what they can (said I) they

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shall pay me for my pains, or I will be no longer *Lazarillo*; and thereupon I fell a knocking with great anger. The Lay-Brother came forth with greater, and without any farther complement gave me such a pulse, that he threw me backward to the ground, as if I had been a mellow Pear; and kneeling upon me, he gave me half a dozen such punches with his knee, and as many flammings with his girdle, that he left me all bruised, as if the Clock-Tower of *Saragosa* had fallen upon me. I lay there stretched above half an hour, not being able to arise; I considered my evil fortune, and the strength of that irregular Friar so ill employed, which had been fitter to serve the King our Lord and Master, than to devour the alms ordained for the poor; though indeed they be scarce good for any employment, being idle and lazie packs, as the Emperour *Charles* the first gave well

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

to understand: for when the General of S. Francis his Order, offered two and twenty thousand Fri. rs to assist him in his Wars, none above forty, nor under two and twenty; the invincible Emperour answered, that he would not have them, by reason that he should have needed every day two and twenty thousand flesh-pots, intimating thereby, that they are fitter by far for the Kitchen, than for any labour or service. God forgive me, for since that day I have so abhorred those Lay-clergy-men, that methought when I saw them, I did see Droans of a Bee hive, or sponges of the fat of the Porridge-pot. I was minded to give over my office, but I expected the revolution of the 24. hours, as the custom is for those that dye of sudden death.

Those that dye in Spain of sudden death are kept 24. hours before they are buried.

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C H A P. X.

*How Lazaro met with an old Baud, and
what hapned unto him.*

Four quar-
tos make a
Royal,
which is
six pence.

W eak and dead for hunger, I
went little by little up the
street, and passing through the Barly-
place, I met with an old mumblers,
that had more tusks than a wild
Boar, who came to me, and asked
me, if I would carry a Trunk for her
to a friend of hers not far from
thence, and she would give me four
quartos. I had no sooner heard her,
but I gave God thanks, that from so
filthy a mouth as hers, should pro-
ceed so sweet a speech as that, She
would give me four quartos, I told
her, yes, with a very good will;
though that very good will was more
to finger the four quartos, than to
carry the burden, having at that
time more need to be carried my self,
than

man to carry. I took up the Trunk with much ado, by reason it was great and heavy: the good Woman bad me carry it fair and softly, because that within it were bottles of Waters, which she esteemed very much. I answered her, that she should not need to fear that, I would go softly enough; for though I would have done otherwise, it had been impossible for me, being so hungry, that hardly I could put one foot before another. We came at length to the house where we did carry the Trunk, the which they very gladly received, especially a young Gentlewoman, plump and round faced (would all the Cattel of my bed were such, my belly being full) who with a chearful countenance said, that she would keep it in her Closet. I carried it thither, and the old Woman gave her the key of it, desiring her to keep it until she returned from *Segovia*, where she was going to

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visit a Kinswoman of hers, hoping to come back again within four days. Then inbracing her, she took leave of her, whispering her in the ear I know not what, which made the Damsel blush like a Rose; (and although I then did like her very well, I should have liked her far better, had the vacuity of my guts been stuffed with good provender) she took likewise leave of all those of the house, desiring the Father and Mother of the Maid to excuse her boldness and importunity; who told her, that their house was at her command. She gave me four quartos, bidding me in mine ear the next morning very early to come to her house, and she would make me earn as much more. I departed more jocund than a Shrove tuesday, or a Mid-summers Eve. I supped with three of them, keeping one to pay for my lodging. I then fell to consider the power and vertue of money; for

at

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

at the instant that the old Woman
had given me those few quartos, I
found my self lighter than the wind,
more valiant than *Hector*, and stron-
ger than *Hercules*. O money, it is
not without reason that most men
do hold thee for their God: thou art
the cause of all good, and the pro-
curer also of all evil. Thou art the
inventor of all Arts, and the main-
tainer of them in their perfection.
For thee are Sciences had in estima-
tion, and with thee are opinions de-
fended. By thee Cities are fortified,
and again by thee their strong
Towers are made level with the
ground. By thee are Kingdoms es-
tablished, and by thee in the same
instant overthrown. Thou art the
upholder of verue, and again the
destroyer thereof. By thee Ladies
do maintain themselves chaste, and
by thee many that are so, become
others. Lastly, there is nothing in
the World, be it never so hard, but

to

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to thee is easie ; nothing so hidden,
but thou canst penetrate ; no hill so
lofty, but thou canst pull down, no
dale so low, but thou canst elevate.
The next morning I went to the old
Womans House, according as she
had appointed me, who bad me go
with her to fetch again the Trunk
which I had carried the day before.
Being come to the house, she told the
Master and Mistriss, that she came
for her Trunk, by reason that upon
the way to *Segovia* (about a mile
from *Madrid*) she had met with her
Kinswoman, who came with the
same intention (that she went) to see
her, and that therefore she did need
it instantly, to have out some clean
linnen that was in it, to give her en-
ertainment. The Maid of a new
stamp returned her the Key, kissing
and imbracing her with more affe-
ction than at the first time ; and af-
ter she had whispered her again in
the ear, they helped up with the
Trunk,

Trunk, which seemed unto me far lighter than the day before, because my belly was better provided. Coming down the stairs ; it was my chance to meet with I know not what stumbling block, which I think the Devil of purpose had laid in my way, that made me stumble, and tumbled down Trunk and all to the bottom of the stairs, where stood the Father and the Mother of the simple and kind hearted wench. I broke my Nose and short Ribs with the fall, and the damned Trunk, with the knocks and joults, flew open. In it there appeared a young Gallant, without his Cloak, his Rapier and Dagger at his side, in a green Sattin Sute, with a feather of the same colour, a pair of Carnation Garters and Roses, Crimson Silk Stockings, and white open shoes : who rising up very mannerly, and making a low reverence, straight went out of doors. They were so amazed

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mazed with that sudden Vision, that they looked one upon another like so many Marachines or Anticks. But when they were come to themselves, they called in all hast two Sons that they had, and with great storming, declared the matter unto them: Who presently taking their Swords, and crying, kill, kill, went out to seek the young Madcap. But he had posted away in such hast, that it was impossible for them to overtake him. The Father and Mother (who all this while had remained below stairs) shutting the doors fast, went up, thinking to revenge themselves upon the Baud: but she that had heard the noise, and known the cause thereof, had already with her Schollar in the O. Q. P. taken the air at a back-door. When they found themselves gulled and prevented; they came down and let flye at me, I being so fore and bruised, that I could not stir;

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

fit; for otherwise I had waited upon him for whose sake I was so ill handled. The two Brothers returned sweating, and out of breath, swearing, and vowing, That since they had not overtaken the villain, they would kill their Sister and the Baud. But when they were told, that they had made an escape at the Back-side, then they fell a blaspheming, cursing, and swearing. The one said, Why do I not meet now with the Devil himself, with an infernal crue, that I might make havock of them, as of so many Flies? Come Devil, come. But now that I call thee, it is certain, that where-soever thou art, thou dost fear my anger, and darest not appear before me. O had I but seen that Coward, with my very breath I had carried him so far, as no body should ever have heard any news of him. The other went on, saying, Had I but overtaken him, I would not have left

word:

one

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one piece of him so big as his ear : but if he be in the World , nay , though he be not, he shall not escape out of my hands; for I would plough him up, were he hid in the Centre of the Earth. These and such like brags and threatnings did they thunder out, whilst poor *Lazaro* was expecting that all the storm should light upon him ; but yet I stood in more fear of ten or twelve Boys that were there, than of those Braggadillos. In the end, both great and sma'l in a cluster fell upon my Jacket ; the one kicked me, the other thumped me ; some pulled me by the hair, others boxed me about the ears. My fear was not vain : for the Boys thrust great pins into my Buttocks up to the head, which made me skreek unto the Heavens; the slaves did so pinch me, that they made me at noon-day see a thousand Stars. Some said, let us kill him ; others, It is better to throw

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throw him in the Privy. The hammering of me was such, that they seemed Thrashers in a Barn, or Hammers of a Fulling-mill, by reason of the perpetual motion. At length seeing me breathless, they desisted from beating, but not from threatening me. The Father as most ripe, or most rotten, commanded them to let me alone; and that if I would tell them truly who was the robber of their honour, they should not do me any more harm: but I could not satisfy their desire, because I knew not who he was, having never seen him before he came out of the Trunk. Seeing that I answered them nothing, they began anew to torment me. There was the wailing, there the weeping for my mishap, there was the sighing, there was the cursing of my cross fortune. But when I perceived, that continually they found new ways to persecute me, I prayed them

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as well as I could, to forbear me, and that I would tell them all the business. They did so, and I told them without any omission, what had passed; but they would give no credit to the truth. Feeling the storm to continue, I determined to cozen them, if it were possible, and therefore I promised to inform them who the Malefactor was; whereupon they left thrashing of me, promising me wonders. They asked me his name, and where he lived. I answered, that I knew it not; and less, that of the street wherein he dwelt: but that, if they would carry me (for it was impossible for me to go, they had so misused me) I would shew them his house. That pleased them well, & therefore they gave me a little wine, with the which I came again to my self: then (being well armed) two of them took me under their armes.

like

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like a *French Lady*, & led me through *Madrid*. Some that did see me, said, They carry that man to Prison; others, to the Hospital: but none did hit the mark. I went amazed, and astonished, not knowing either what to say, or what to do; for I durst not cry out for help, lest they should complain of me to the Justices, whom I feared more than death it self: and to run away was impossible, not only by reason of my former ill usage, but also for being between the Father, Sons, and Kinsfolks, who for that purpose had joyned themselves, eight or nine together, armed at all points, like so many *S. Georges*. We crossed many Streets, and went through many Lanes, not knowing where I was, or whether I did lead them. At length we came to the Sun Gate, and down a Street right over against it, I perceived a Gallant that came tripping it upon the toes, his Cloak jerked under one arm, a
R piece

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prince of a Glove in one hand, and a July-flower in the other, his arm keeping time with his foot, so that one would have taken him for the cousin germane to the Duke of Infantado: he made a thousand several faces and odd countenances. I knew him at the instant to be the Squire my Master, who had stolen away my Cloaths at Murcia: and without doubt, some Saint or other (for I had not left one in all the Letany unprayed to) had brought him thither for my redemption. As I saw the occasion offer it self so fair, I caught hold of it by the fore-top, and with one stone I determined to kill two Birds, that is to be revenged of that bragging Cheater, and to free my self from those hang-men. Which to bring to pass, I said unto them, Gentlemen, look about you, for yonder cometh the Gallant, that hath robbed you of your honour, who hath only changed his Apparel.

They

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

They blinded with rage and anger, without any further discourse, asked me which was he, I pointed him out unto them : whereupon they rushed upon him, and taking him by the Collar, threw him to the ground where they kicked and cuffed him out of all measure. One of the young striplings, Brother to the Gentlewoman, would have run him through with his Sword, but that his Father hindered him ; and calling Officers to their help, they bound him hand and foot. When I perceived the Cards to be thus shuffled, and that they were all busie, as well as I could I began to shew them a fair pair of heels, and went and hid my self. My honest Squire (who knew me) thinking they were some of my acquaintance, that demanded my Apparel, did cry out unto them, Let me alone, Let me alone, and I will pay for two Suites. But they stopped his mouth with good blows with

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their fists, and all bloudy, bruised, and
broken headed, carried him to Pri-
son: And I took my leave of *Madrid*
cursing both the Occupation, and
the first inventor of it.

CHAP. XI.

*How Lazaro parted from Madrid, to
go into his own Country: and what
happened unto him upon the way.*

I Was minded to put my self, on
my way, but I found my strength
far unequal to my courage; for
which cause, I remained yet some
days in *Madrid*: which I passed well
enough, by reason, that helping my
self with Crutches (without which I
was not able to go) I went begging
from door to door, and from Covent
to Covent, till I found my self strong
enough, and able to travel. I made
the more hast, for a thing that I
heard related by a Begger, who with
others, was lowering himself in the
Sun.

Sun. It was the history of the Trunk, as already I have told it: adding, that the man whom they had imprisoned, thinking it had been he of the Trunk, had proved the contrary, for at the very instant that the business hapned, he was at his lodging, and no body thereabouts had seen him with other apparel than that wherewith they had taken him: but that notwithstanding he had been exposed to the publike shame of a Vagabond, and banished *Madrid*. He told also, how the Gentlewoman's friends did seek for a Porter, that had dressed that Mess of Knavery, swearing to make a Sive of his skin with their Rapiers, if ever they met him: I opened my eyes, to prevent this accident, clapping a patch upon one of them, and shaving my beard like a Monk: for I assured my self that in this disguise, the Mother that bare me could not have known me. I departed from *Madrid*, with

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intention to go to *Teiares*, to try if
(being new moulded) Fortune would
mistake me. I passed by the *Escuriall*,
a Building which doth speak the
greatness of the Monarch that did
erect it, (for it was not yet altogether
finished) and is such, that it may be
reckoned among the Wonders of
the World; though it cannot be said
that the pleasant situation hath been
a motive to build it there, the ground
being very barren and hilly: but
well, the temperateness of the air;
which in summer is such, that remo-
ving only to the shade, the heat is
not troublesome, nor the cold offen-
sive, but exceeding wholesome.
Within less than two miles from
thence, I met with a company of
Gipseys, lodged in an old decayed
house: who as soon as they perceived
me a far off, thought I was some
one of their Troop, for my attire did
promise no less; but coming near-
er, they saw their error, and were
some-

somewhat daunted with my presence, because (as far as I could perceive) they held a Consultation or were debating an Election. They told me, that that was not the right way to *Salamanca*, but to *Valladolid*. Seeing my business did not constrain me to go rather to one place than to another, I told them, that since it was so, I would see that City, before I went into my Country. One of the ancientest asked me, whence I was? and understanding that I was of *Tejares*, he invited me to dinner for neighbourhoods sake, for he was of *Salamanca*. I accepted his offer, and afterwards they desired me to relate unto them my life, and adventures. I did it, without any farther intreaty as briefly as things of such moment could permit. When I came to speak of the Tub, and what had hapned unto me in an Inn at *Madrid*, I made them laugh extreamly, especially two Gypseys, a Man and a Woman,

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who could scarce stand for laughing. I began to be ashamed, and to blush, when the old Gypsey, my Country man, who had taken notice thereof, said unto me; Be not out of countenance, Brother: for these Gentles do not laugh at your life; being such, as it rather deserveth admiration than laughter; of which, since you have given us so full an account, it is reasonable, that we pay you in the same Coyn. Wherefore, resting upon your prudence, as you have done upon ours, if the company will give me leave, I will tell you the occasion of their laughter. Every one answered, that he was well content; for they knew that his great discretion and experience would not suffer him to go beyond the limits of reason. Know then (said he) that those two whom you see yonder, almost out of breath with laughing, are the Priest and the Damsel, that leaped naked out at the Window, when the inundation

dation of your Tub had like to have drowned them; who (if they please) will tell you how and by what means they have attain'd to this state of life. The Gypsey offered her self very willingly, and craving the benevolence of the worthy Auditory, with aloud, but gentle & grave voices, ſhe thus began her own story: The day that I came out, or to ſay better, that I leaped out of my Fathers Houſe, they carried me to Priſon, and put me in a chamber, rather dark than clean, and far more ſtinking than handſome. As for the worſhipful Maſter Uruez, who is here preſent, and may diſprove me if I ſpeak untruth, they clapped him up in the Dungeon, till he told them that he was a Prieſt: wherefore they preſently ſent him to the under Biſhop, who very ſharply reprehended him for having been ſo ſaint hearted, as for a little Water to have leaped out at a Window before all the World, and

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and given such a scandal: But with promise that he made him, to be more wary and circumspect another time, and to do his business in such sort, as the ground itself should not be privy to his ingress and egress, he let him go, enjoining him for penance, that for three days he should not sing Mass. I remained in the custody of the chief Keeper or Captain of the Prison, who being youthful and lusty, and I young, and not unhandsome, did whatsoever he could to please me. The Prison to me was a Palace, and Garden of delight. My Father and my Mother, though greatly displeased with my looseness, did what they could to set me loose, but albin vain, for the Captain did work all possible means to detain me still in his keeping. In the mean time, Master Licentiat, here present, went round about the Prison, like a setting Dog, to see if he could speak with me: which at length

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length he did, by the means of a
Baud, the best of her Professions, who
dressed him in the attire of one of her
Maids, with a Petticoat and Waist-
coat, and a Muffler before his Beard,
as if he had had the Mumps: at this
enterview was the plot laid for my
escape. The night following, there
was great feasting & revelling at the
Earl of *Miranda's* House, and in the
end the Gypseys were to dance;
with whom *Canis* (for so is the reve-
rend *Urrez* now called) consoorted
himself, to have their help in his pre-
tences: which they so well executed
(thanks to his wit and industry) that
we enjoy both our desired liberty,
and his company, that is the best in
the world. The afternoon before the
Feast, the Captain kept more fidling
about me, than a Cat about a Tripe-
wife; and made me more protesta-
tions and promises, than a passenger
in a storm at Sea: all which (as bound
thereunto) I encountred again with
the

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the like. He desired me to ask him whatsoever I would, and he would grant it me, so it were not to be deprived of my presence. I thanked him very much, telling him, that to want his would be to me the greatest mischance that ever could happen unto me. Perceiving I had hit the mark, I intreated him to carry me that night (since well he might) to the Earls house to see the dancing. This thing seemed very hard unto him; nevertheless, not to go back from his word, and because the little blind Archer had wounded him with one of his Arrows, he did promise it me. Now was the high Sheriff in love with me, and had given charge to all the Guards, and to the Captain himself, to give me good entertainment, & to have a care that no body should carry me forth. To convey me therefore more closely to the Revels, he attired me like a Page: my Doublet and Hose were of green Damask laid

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laced with Gold lace; the Cloak or Velvet of the same colour, lined through with yellow Sattin; a Bonnet with a Herons-top and feather, and a Diamond Hatband; a Ruffe with seaming lace, and Peaks, Straw-coloured Stockins, great Garters and Roses, suitable to mine Apparrel; a pair of white pinkt shcoes; with a gilded Rapier and Dagger, according to the fashion. We came to the Banquetting Room, and found there a great number of Ladies and Gentlemen; the Gentlemen jovial, and in good equipage; the Ladies gallant, and beautiful; and also many muffled up in their Cloaks, and Women with Veyls. *Canil* was dressed like a Roarer; and seeing me, came straightways on the other side of me; so that I was between him and the Captain. The Revelling began; where I saw things, which because they belong not to what I intend to speak of, I will omit. But at length
the

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the Gypseys came to dance, and shew tricks; whereupon two of them grew to words, & so from one thing to another, the one gave the other the Lye; who answered him with a slash with his Sword over the head, that made him bleed like an Oxe. The company, that till then had thought they had been in jest, began to be amazed, and to cry out, Help, help. Some Officers and Serjeants that were there, began to stir themselves. Every one put his hand to his Sword, and I drew mine; but when I saw it naked in my hand, I fell a quivering for very fear of it. They layed hold on the offender, & there wanted not some, who (being there set for the purpose) said, That the Captain of the Prison was there, to whose charge they might deliver him. The High Sheriffe called him out, to give him charge of the Murderer. He would willingly have carried me along with him: but fearing
left

lest I should be known, he bad me withdraw my self into a corner which he shewed me, and not to stir from thence, until he returned. When I saw the Crab-lawse had let go his hold, I took my *Domini Canil* (who was still at my elbow) by the hand, and in two strides we got out into the street, where we found one of these Gentlemen, who brought us to their *Rendezvous*. When the wounded man (whom already every one thought to be dead) imagined in himself that we were escaped, he rose up and said, Gentlemen, the jest shall end here, for I am in good health; and what hath been done, hath been only to make sport to the company. And with that he pulled off the Cap he had on, under the which (upon an Iron skull) was an Oxes bladder full of blood for that purpose; which, with the blow that the other had given him had been broken, and so spilt. Every one fell a laughing

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laughing at the jest, except the Captain, who found it to be a troublesome one: for coming to the place appointed, and not finding me there, he began to seek up and down the room, till that asking an old Gypsy-woman, if she had not seen a Page with such and such tokens. She (that knew the whole drift) told him, Yea, and that she had heard him say as he went out, holding a man by the hand, Let us go retire our selves to *S. Philips*. He went thither in all haste for to seek me, but to little purpose; for he went towards the East, and we fled towards the West. Before we left *Madrid*, I had changed my Cloathes for others, and had two hundred Ryals to boot: I sold the Hat-band for four hundred Crowns, whereof I gave two hundred to these Gentlemen, for our entrance into their company for so had *Canil* covenanted with them. This is the whole discourse of my liberty: If Master

Lazaro

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Lazaro doth desire any thing else; let him command, and he shall be served according as his worthy and jovial presence doth deserve. I thanked her for her courtesie; and with as much as I was able, I took my leave of them all. The good old man brought me a mile on my way: and as we went, I asked him if all those that were there were Gypseys, born in *Egypt*. He answered me the Devil a one there was in all *Spain*; but that they were all Priests, Friars, Nuns, or Thieves that had broke out of Prison, or out of their Cloysters, but yet that amongst them all, those that came from Monasteries, were the greatest and most notorious Villains, changing a contemplative life into an active. He returned to his company, and I on horse-back upon *S. Francis* his Mule, followed my way to *Valledotid*.

C H A P. XII.

*What hapned to Lazaro in a Tavern
two miles off from Valledolid.*

ALL the way long did I nothing but think upon my good Gypsies, their life, customes, and behaviour. I wondred much, how the Magistrates would suffer publike Thieves to go so freely and openly; all the World knowing, that to filch and steal is their only imployment and occupation. They are the Refuge and Receptacle of all Rogues; the Sanctuary for Apostates, and the School of all mischief. But chiefly I did marvel, that Friars should forsake their sweet and quiet life, for the miserable and toilsome life of a Gypsey. Neither had I believed to be true, what the old Gypsey told me; had he not shown me, half a mile from the place where they were lodged,

ged, behind the Wall of a Close, a Man and a Woman Gypsey : he frolick and lusty, she plump and comely ; he not parched with the Sun, she not blasted with the unkindness of the Weather : The one sung a Verse of the Psalms of *David* ; the other answered with another. The good old man assured me, that they were a Frier and a Nun ; who, not above eight days before, were come to their congregation, with a desire to make profession of a most austere life. I followed my way until I came to a Tavern two miles off from *Valledolid* ; at the door whereof, I found sitting the old Woman of *Madrid*, & the young Gentlewoman, of whom I have spoken. There came out a young Gallant, to bid them come in to Dinner. They could not know me I was so disguised, with my Patch still upon my Eye, and my Cloaths right Beggers Cut : but I knew my self to be that *Lazaro* that was come out of

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the Grave, that had been so costly unto me. I went in after them, and stood before them; to see if they would give me somewhat: but it had bee a hard matter for them so to do having not enough for themselves, for the worthy Gentleman, that had played the Steward, had been so liberal, that for himself, his Sweetheart, and the old Baud, he had caused to be made ready a little Hogsliver, with a sawce to whet their appetite, all which, I could easily have gobbled up in less than two morfels, The Bread was as black as the Tablecloth, which seemed like the Cassock of some Penitent, or the Maulking wherewith an Oven is made clean. Eat, my Love (said the Gentleman) for this is diet for a Prince, The Baud fell to roundly, & said not one word for fear of losing time, because she saw that she was not to go often to the dish; which they began to lick, and rub so hard, that (it being of Earth)

The ghostly Fathers enjoin to some for a penance, to wear black Buckram cassocks with a Wax Candle in their hands, to accompany others that do whip themselves

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Earth) they scraped away all the Varnish. Their pitiful & short Meal being ended, (which had rather provoked, than in any manner asswaged their hunger) the gentle Lover made his excuse, saying, That the Tavern was unprovided. I seeing that there was nothing there for me, asked the Host, if he had any thing to eat? who answered me. According to the pay; and would have given me a little Hogs-hasslet: but I asked him, if he had nothing else? he offered me a quarter of a Kid, that the amorous Gallant had refused, because it was too dear. I thought to come over them with a Bravado, & so I bad him give it me. I went and sate down with it at the lower end of the Table: where it was a sport to see how they looked upon me. Every bit that I put into my mouth, did draw six eyes after it; for those of the Lover, of the Gentlewoman, and of the Baud, were nailed to what I did eat. How comes

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it to pass (said the Damosel) that yonder Beggar doth eat a Quarter of a Kid, and we three have had nothing but a poor piece of fried Liver? The Gallant answered, That he had asked the Host for Partridges, Capons, or Hens, and that he had told him, that he had nothing else to give him; I, that knew how the matter went (and that for fear of spending or for not having wherewithal he had dieted them) did notwithstanding hold my peace, and ply my vi-
tuals. I think in my conscience, that that Kid meat was a Loadstone: for when I least took heed, I found them all three round about my Dish. The shameless and brazen faced Wench took a peice, and said, Brother by your leave; but before she had it, it was already in her mouth. The old Mumbler replied, Do not take away the poor Wretch his meat from him. I will not take it away (answered she) for I do mean to pay him very well.

well for it; and in saying so, she fell to it with such hast and greediness, that it seemed she had not eaten in six days before. The good Matron took a bit, to know how it tasted. What (saith my Gallant) do you like it so well? and therewith pops me a piece in his mouth as big as his fist. But I perceiving them to grow somewhat too bold, took all that was in the Dish, and made but one mouthful of it; which was so great, that I could neither get it backward nor forward. Being in this perplexity, there came to the Tavern gate two horsemen, armed with coats of Mail Head pieces, and Bucklers, each of them carrying a Petronel at his side, and another at their Saddle-bow: who alighting, gave their Mules to a Foot-man, and asked the Host if he had any thing to eat? he answered them, That he had wherewith to give them good entertainment; and therefore, if it pleased their Worships,

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they might walk into the Hall, whilst Meat was a making ready. The old Woman, who hearing the noise, was gone out to the door, & came straight in again, with her two hands upon her face, bending and bowing her body a thousand times like a new-hooded Monk, speaking as out of a Trunck, and wrestling and wringing now one side, then the other as if she had been in Child-birth, as low and as well as she could, she said, We are all undone; for the Brothers of Clara (for so was the Gentlewoman called) are at the Gate. The young Wench hearing this, began to take on, and to pull her self by the hairs, and to thump and mis-use her self, as if she had been out of her wits. But the young Gallant, that was stout & courageous, comforted her, and bad her be of good cheer; and that where he was, she needed not to fear any thing. I (who all this while had still the great piece of Kid in my mouth) when

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when I understood that those Swash-bucklers were there, was like to have died for fear; and had died indeed, had it not been that my Throat being stopped with the Meat, my Soul could find no passage to get out, and therefore was constrained to return again into her place. The two roaring Boys came in; and as soon as they perceived their sister, and the old Hag, they cryed out; here they be; Now we have them, Kill, Kill them. At this uproar, I was so affrighted, that I fell to the ground; and with the fall, I cast out the Kid that did choak me. The two Women put themselves behind the Gentleman, as Chickens do under the Hens wings, when they run away from a Kite. He with a brave spirit drew out his Rapier, and went towards them with such fury, that for very fear they stood still like two Statues, their words being frozen in their mouths, and their Swords in their

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their Scabbards. He asked them what they would, or what they fought? and with that coming to the one, he pulled out his Sword, holding the point thereof at his eyes, and of his own at the eyes of the other, so that at the least motion of the Swords, they quaked and trembled like Leaves upon a Tree: The old Woman and the Sister seeing the two *Bravachios* so heartless, came to them and disarmed them. The Host came in at the noise that we made (for I was already got up, and had one of them by the Beard,) not unlike to the counterfeit Bulls of my Country, which children at first sight do flye from; but growing bolder by little and little, and perceiving that they are not wild, nor what they seem to be, do come so near them, that (having lost all fear) they cast and hang upon them a thousand Dish-cloths. So I seeing that those scarecrows were not what they appeared to be, took heart

heart at grass, and set upon them with as much boldness as my former fear could afford me. What is the matter here, said the host; What stir is this in my house? The Woman, the Gentleman, and I began to cry out, They are Thieves, that come following us to rob us. The Host that saw them without their weapons, and as with the victory, said, What? Thieves in my house? And thereupon laid hands upon them, and with our help, did put them into a Vault under ground, notwithstanding any thing they could alledge to the contrary. Their man, who by this time had given meat to their Mules, coming in and asking for his Masters, was by the Host sent to keep them company. Then did he take their Cloak-baggs, Mails, and other furniture, and locked them up; dividing their Weapons between us, as if they had been his own. He asked nothing of us for his Meat, that we might be

wit.

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Witnesses in the Information which he had made against them; upon the which, as an Officer of the Inquisition (which he said he was) and as Justice of that place, he condemned them all three to the Gallies for ever, and each of them to two hundred stripes round about the Tavern. They appealed unto the *Chancery of Valladolid*, whither the good Host, and three of his servants did carry them. But when the unfortunate Wretches thought they had been before the secular Judges, they found themselves before the Inquisitors: for the subtle and malicious Taverner had put within the Informations certain speeches that they had said against the Ministers of the holy Inquisition; an irremissible offence. They put them in dark Dungeons; from whence (as they thought to have done) they could not write to their Father, nor come to the speech of any that might help them.

And

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

And there we will leave them in good hold, to return to our Host, whom we met on the way: who told us, That the Lords of the Inquisition had given him charge to bring before them the Witnesses, that had given evidence in the cause; but that notwithstanding (as our friend) he did advise us to absent our selves. The Gentlewoman gave him a Ring that she had upon her finger; desiring him so to work, as we might not appear before them: he did promise it. Now had the Rascal said this, only to make us be gone; for fear that (if we had been heard) his Villany (which was not the first) should have been discovered. About a fortnight after, there was a general Execution at *Valledolid*; where, among other prisoners, I saw the three poor Devils come forth with Gags in their mouths, as Blasphemers, that had been so presumptuous as to touch with their tongue the Ministers of

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of the holy Inquisition; men even as holy & perfect, as the Justice they do administrate. They wore each of them a penitent Garment, called a *Sanbenito*; and a Paper Miter upon their heads; whereon were written their offences, and the punishment to be inflicted upon them for the same. It grieved me to see the poor Footman pry what he did not owe: as for the two other, I had not so much pity of them, for the little they had of me. They confirmed the Sentence of the Host, adding moreover and above to every one of them three hundred stripes: so that they gave them five hundred a piece, and sent them to the Gallies, where their brags and bravadoes had leasure to take breath and cool themselves. For my part, I did seek my fortune, and many times in * *Magdalin* Field did I meet the two Women, who never yet knew me, nor thought that I had known them. A while after I saw the young Gen-

Magdelain-field, is a place to walk in at Valledolid as Moore-fields in London.

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

Gentlewoman, who had taken up a Lodging, where she lay backwards, and did let her forerooms, to get wherewith to maintain her self and her Gallant. As for the old Woman, she fell again to her old Trade in that City.

CHAP. XIII.

*How Lazaro was Gentleman Usher
to seven several Women.
at one time.*

I Came to *Valleadolid* with six Rials in my Purse; by reason that every one seeing me so lean and so pale did give me their Charities very freely, and I was not slack in receiving. I went directly to the Brokers; where for four Ryals and a Quartil-
lo I bought me a long Frize Cloak, that had been some Portugal's, even as thredbare as tattered and unfown; where-

A Quartil-
lo is three
half pence.

The pursuit of the History

wherewith, & a high Steeple crown'd
Hat, with broad brims, like a *Franciscan*
Frier, that I bought for half a
a Ryall, and with a staff in my hand I
walked the streets. All that saw me,
did laugh at me, and every one gave
me their squib. One called me Ta-
vern Philosopher : another, Behold
where *Saint Peter* goeth, apparelled
as on a holy day Eve. Some would
say, Gentleman of *Portugal*, will you
have any Grease to anoint your
Boots ? Others there were, who affir-
med, that I seemed to be the Ghost
of some hospital Physician. But I
with Merchants ears, heard all, said
nothing, and still passed on. I had
not gone through many Streets,
when I met a Woman with a great
Fardingale, and Pattens of the larg-
est size, who leaned her hand upon
a Boys head, and was covered with
a Cypress Veyl, unto her stomach ;
she asked me, if I could tell her of
any Gentleman Ulher : I answered
her,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

her, that I knew of none, but my self,
of whom (if it pleased her) she might
dispose as of her own. The agree-
ment was made betwixt us without
any farther delay, she promising me
for meat, drink, and wages, three
Quartillos a day. I took possession of
the Office, and gave her my arm, and
threw away my staff, as having now
no more need of it, for I carried it
only to be thought sick, and move
people to compassion. She sent the
Boy home, bidding him tell the
Maid she should lay the cloth, and
make ready dinner. She led me a-
bove two hours up and down from
one place to another. The first visit
we came at, the good Gentlewoman
warned me, that when we came nigh
the house that she was to go to, I
should run before and enquire if the
Master or the Mistris were within,
and say, My Mistris *Jeane Perez* (for
that was her name) is here, who de-
sireth to kiss their hands. She told

That is
four pence
half penny

T

me

The pursuit of the History

me moreover, that when she did stay
any where, I was never to have my
Hat on before her : I answered her,
that I knew very well the duty of a
Servant, and that I would perform
it. I had an exceeding desire to see
the face of my new Mistress, but I
could not, because she was veiled.
She told me that she could not
maintain me alone for her self ; but
that she would find some of her
Neighbours whom I might serve,
and that between them they would
give me the consideration she had
promised me, and in the mean time,
(till they were consorted, which
would be very shortly) she would
pay me her part. She asked me, if I
knew where to lye a nights ? I told
her, no. You shall not want lodging
(said she) for my Husband is a Tay-
lor, and hath Prentices, with whom
you shall share bedding : You could
not have found a better place in the
whole City ; for before three days
be

Three
blanks are
three far-
things.

That is
three far-
things

be at an end, you shall have six Mistresses, and every one shall give you a Quarto, which will be three Blanks more than I have promised you. I could not but wonder at the state and gravity of that Woman, who seemed (at the least) the Wife of some great Gentleman, or wealthy Citizen: and withal, it astonished me to consider, how for three poor Quartillos, and three Blanks a day, I was to wait upon seven Mistresses. But I considered, that something was better than nothing, and that the Office was not painful, a thing I hated as the Devil himself; for I have always chosen rather to eat Cabbage and Garlick without working; than to work, and feed upon Hens and Capons. When we came home, she gave me her Veil and Pattens, to deliver them to the Maid, and then I saw what I so much desired. I found, that my little Woman was handsome enough; she was

T 2

brown,

The pursuit of the History

brown, of a good behaviour, and comely feature. What I only disliked in her, was, that her face did shine like an Earthen Porringer, varnished. She gave me the Quarto, bidding me come twice a day, once at eight a clock in the morning, and again at three in the afternoon, to know if she would go abroad, or no. I went from thence to a Cooks-shop, and with a Pye of a quarto I made an end of my allowance, passing the rest of the day like a Camelion; for I had already spent the Alms that had been given me upon the way, and durst not fall a begging again, for my Mistress (if she had known it) would have eaten me quick. I went to her House at three a clock; she told me, that she would not go forth, but that she would have me know, that from thence forward she would pay nothing that day she went not abroad, and if so be she went out but once in a whole day, I should then

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

then have but two Maravedies. Furthermore, she said, that since she allowed me my bedding, she did also expect to be served before all others, and that I should entitle my self her Servant. The Bed (to speak truth) was such, as it deserved well that prerogative and much more, for she made me lye with her Prentices upon a great Table, and the devil any thing else there was, but an old rotten thred-bare Blanket to cover us. I passed four days with the plentiful Diet that four Maravedies could afford me, and at the end of them, there entred into the society a Taverners Wife, who was above an hour in bargaining for the poor Quarto. To conclude, within five days I found seven Mistresses, and seven Quartos a day of allowance, so that I began to live very splendidly, drinking not of the worst Wine, though not altogether of the best, that so I might cut my Cloak according

A Maravedy is the least money they have in Spain, and is worth a little above half a farthing of our money.

T 3

The pursuit of the History

according to my cloth. The other five were, a Serjeant's Widdow, a Gardners Wife, the bare-footed Nuns Chaplains Neece (for so she stiled her self) a wench for any thing; and a Tripe-wife, whom I did best affect, because that when she did pay me, her Quarto, she would always bid me to some of her Tripe-broth, of the which before I went out of her house, I would send some three or four Porrengers full into my guts; so that I lived so well that I pray God I may never live worse. The last was a devout Woman (called a *Beata*) with whom I had more to do, than with all the rest; for we never visited any but Monks and Friars, with whom when she was alone, she was in her Kingdom: her house was like a Bee-hive, some went out, & others came in, but all of them with their great sleeves stored with one thing or other. They gave me (that I might be secret) some pieces of meat, which they

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

they saved in their sleeves, out of their allowance in the Covent. I never saw in all my life a better hypocrite than this my Mistress was. When she went through the street she never lifted her eyes from the ground, and her beads were never out of her hands, wherewith she still mumbled her prayers. All such as knew her would desire her to pray to God for them, for without doubt her prayers were very acceptable unto him. She would answer them, that she was a great sinner (wherein she lyed not, but couzened them with the naked truth.) Now had every one of these my Mistresses their set hours, when one had told me that she would not stir forth, I went to another, till I had ended my task. But especially I was (and that without fail) to go find them again at my appointed time; for if by mischance I missed never so little, then would my Mistress, before all the company

The Pursuit of the History

that she visited, scold, and rail me out of my skin; and threatned me, that if I continued in this carelesness and negligence, she should seek out another Gentleman-Usher, that should be more diligent, observant, and punctual. So that to hear her brawl and threaten with such arrogancy, a man would have thought she had given me every day two Ryals for my diet only, and thirty Duckets a year standing wages. When they went abroad, one would have taken them for the wives of some Presidents of *Castile*, at the least of some Counsellours. It fortun'd one day that the Chaplains Neece, and the Serjeants Wife met together in a Church, and being both of them to return home at the same time, there arose a great controversie between them, which of the two I was to accompany, making a noise as if they had been in a Fair. They pulled and tugged me, one of this side, another

of

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

of that side, with such rage and fury, that at length they tore my Cloak in pieces, leaving me stark naked; for the devil any other Cloaths had I under it, but a ragged shirt that looked like a Fishermans-net. Those that through the Casements thereof did cast their eyes upon the nudity of my flesh, did burst out into extream laughter. Some would mock poor *Lazaro*; and others gave ear to the two Women who pulled their Grandfathers out of their Graves. The haste I had to gather up again the pieces of my Cloak, which, for being somewhat too ripe, were fallen to the ground, would not permit me to hear what they said one to another; only I heard the Widdow say, Where hath this Baggage (I wonder) gotten all this pride? but yesterday she was a Tankard-wench, and to day she ruffles it in her silks, at the cost of the souls in Purgatory. The other replied. But you Mi-
striss

The pursuit of the History

strefs Wag-tail do mince it in your
Stammel, earned of those who with
a *Deo gratias*, and a God reward you,
do pay for whatsoever they possess:
and if I yesterday carried the Water-
tankard, you bear to day the Wine-
bottle. The company that stood by
parted them, for they had already
one another fast by the hair. Having
gathered up the dismembred mem-
ber of my poor Cloak, I asked a cou-
ple of pins of a mumblor of Pater-
nosters that was there, wherewith I
mended it as well as I could to hide
my nakedness: and leaving them
brawling, I went me to my Mistress
the Taylors wife, who had warned
me to come and fetch her at eleven a
clock, because she was to go to din-
ner at a friends house; when she
saw me in this pickle, she began to
fall a scoulding at me; saying, what
do you think to earn my money by
waiting on me thus like a Rogue?
with far less wages than I give you,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

I could have a Gentleman Usher with handsome Trousers, a near Doubler, a good Cloak, and a comely Bonnet; and you do nothing but tittle up all I give you. What tittle (said I to my self) with seven poor Quartos that I earn a day, when I earn the most, for many passed that my Mistresses for fear of paying me my quarto, would not go abroad. She made the pieces of my Cloak to be stitched one to another, and for very haste they put them upside downwards, in which manner I waited on her.

CHAP. XIV.

*Lazaro rehearsed what happened
at a Banquet.*

WE poasted like a Fryer invited to a feast; for the good Lady feared there should not be enough for her. We came to a friends house,

The pursuit of the History

house, where we found other Women that were likewise invited, who asked my Mistress, whether I was sufficient to keep the door? she answered them, yes. Then they said to me, stand here Brother, to day you shall fare royally. There came in many Gallants, every one pulling out of his pocket, this man a Partridge, and that man a Hen; one brought forth a Rabbet, another a pair of Pigeons; this a piece of Mutton, that a chain of Pork; some drew out Sawfages or Chitterlings: and such a one there was, that pulled out a Pye of a Ryal wrapped up in his Handkercher. They delivered all to the Cook, and whilst dinner was in preparing, they sported with the Gentlewomen. What passed there between them, is neither lawful for me to rehearse, nor for the Reader to contemplate. But the play being ended, meat was served in, and all sat down, the Gentlewomen plying

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

plying the dishes soundly ; and the Gallants taking their Cups roundly. What remained upon the Table, the women put it up in their pockets. The Gentlemen returning to their Handkerchiefs, drew forth their last course. One brought out Apples, another Cheese, another Olives, and one of them (who was the chief, and stitched the Taylors wife) drew out half a pound of Comfits. This manner of carrying meat so near at hand for any necessity, did please me wondrous well, and therefore from thence forwards, I purposed to make three or four pockets in the first breeches that God should send me (for at that time I had not any) and one of them should be such leather as black Jacks are made of, very well sown to put porridge in. For if those Gallants that were so rich, and so noted, did bring all the provision in their pockets : and the Gentlewomen did carry it away
cram.

The pursuit of the History.

med within theirs; I (who was but Usher to a crew of *Cockatrices*) might very well do it. We went at length among us Servants to dinner, and the devil any thing else was there for us, but porridge and sops. I wondred that the good Ladies had not also put that into their wide sleeyes. We had hardly begun to eat, when we heard a great noise in the Room where our Masters were. They disputed who their Parents had been, and what the Womens Husbands were; until that leaving words, they fell roundly to blows, and pell-mell one with another, did let hands, feet, teeth, and nails do their function, in scratching, biting, kicking, cuffing, and tugging one another by the hairs. The occasion of this uprore was, that some of the Gallants would neither give, nor pay any thing to the Gentlewomen, telling them, that what they had eaten, did suffice. It chanced that
upon

upon this stir, a Commissary, with other Officers of Justice, did pass through the street; who hearing the noise, came to the door, and charged them to open in the King's name: which words being heard, every one began to run, one this way, another that way: one left his Cloak, another his Sword: this Woman left her Pattens; that, her Veil: so that all vanished, and hid themselves, every one where best he could. I (who had done nothing for which I should run away) did not stir; but I (as I was Porter) opened the door, lest they should accuse me to have resisted the Kings Officers. The first Serjeant that entred, taking first hold of me by the neck, said, That he arrested me: and being thus in his hold, they shut fast the doors, and went to seek those that had made the noise. They left no Chamber, Closet, Buttery, Cellar, Garret, nor Privy unsearched: but seeing they could find no
body,

The pursuit of the History

body, they took my examination. I confessed from one end to the other, who those were that were there, and and what they had done. They wondred that there being so many, as I said; they could not find any: And, to speak the truth, I my self was much amazed at it, for there were twelve men, and fix women. Wherefore I told them (as indeed I did believe it) that I thought, that all those that had been there, and made that noise, were Spirits; whereupon they fell a laughing at me. The Commissary asked those that had been in the Cellar, if they had searched well in every corner? They answered him, yes. But he, not satisfied therewith, caused a Torch to be lighted, to go down himself. Enttring at the door, they saw a great Tub rowl up & down the Cellar; where with the Serjeants being frightened, began to run away, saying, by God this man saith true, here are nothing but

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

but Hobgoblins. The Commissary, who was more crafty stayed them, saying, That he did not fear the Devil; and with that went to the Tub, and opening it, found within it a Man and a Woman, both of them as naked as their Mother brought them into the World, by reason, that when the said Commissary did knock at the door, they were in bed together upon terms of agreement, and had not had the leisure, upon the sudden Alarm, to take their Cloths; but as they were, had hid themselves within that empty Tub. They were all amazed to see them both so fair; but casting Cloaks upon them, they committed them to the custody of two Serjeants, and went on to seek the others. The Commissary discovered a great Earthen Vessel full of Oyl, within the which he found a man cloathed, and up to the breast in the said Oyl: who (as soon as they perceived him) thought to

The perſait of the Hiſtory

have leaped forth; which he could not do ſo artificially, but that both he and the Veſſel came to the ground, ſo that the Oyl did rebound up to their Hats, and without any reſpect, ſtained them all; which made them curſe both the Officer, and the Devil that firſt invented it. The Oylie-man, ſeeing that nobody did ſtay him, (but to the contrary, that all fled from him as from a mad Dog) betook himſelf to his heels; and though the Com-miſſary cryed out, ſtay him, ſtay him, yet nevertheless every one gave him way, ſo that he went out at a back-door, piſſing Oyl, of the which he had enough out of his Garments, to maintain the Lamp of our *Lady of Diſtreſſes* a month and more. All the Officers remained drenched in Oyl, curſing him that had brought them thither, and me alſo: for they ſaid, I was the Baud, and for ſuch a one ſhould be puniſhed. They came

out

out of the Cellar, as Flitters out of a Frying-pan, leaving a tract wheresoever they passed. They were so angry, that they vowed to God and the four Evangelists, to hang all those that they found; which made us prisoners to stink for fear. They went to Corn and Meal-rooms to seek out the rest; and being there, from above through a Trap-door was a Sack of Meal powred upon them; wherewith they were all blinded, and cryed out, violence to the King's Officers: and if they thought to open their eyes, they were instantly closed up with Water and Meal. Those that had the keeping of us, left us to go help the Commissary, that roared out like a Mad-man. But they were scarce entred, when their eyes also were filled with Meal and Water: so that they went up and down, as if they had been playing at Blindman-buffe; and meeting one another in this manner,

The pursuit of the History

did enterchange such Cuffes and Blows, that they brake one anothers Chops, and Teeth. When we saw them in such disorder, we came in upon them, and they upon themselves with such might, that being weary, and out of breath, they fell to the ground, where blows and spurns fell upon them as thick as hail, until they were as still as if they had been dead: for if any one did but open his mouth to grunt never so little, he had it straightways filled with Meal, and crammed like a Capon. We bound them hand and foot, and carried them into the Cellar, and threw them into the Oyl, like Fishes to be fryed, where they wallowed like Hogs in the mire. Then did we shut up all the doors, every one returning to his own house. The owner of the house, where these Reaks were played (who was gone into the Country) coming home presently after, and finding the doors fast,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

fast, and that no body did answer (by reason that a Neece of his, to whom he had incharged his house, which she had lent for that meeting, was gone home to her Fathers, for fear of her Uucle) he caused the doors to be broken open. But when he found his house all strewed with Meal, and bedawbed with Oyl, he was so vexed, that he took on as if he had been drunk: then he went into his Cellar, where he found all the Oyl spilt, and the Officers tumbling in it. With rage and madness to see his goods spoiled after this manner, he took a great Cudgel, and gave the Commissary and the Serjeants so many blows, that he left them for half dead: then calling his Neighbours to his aid, they carried them into the street, where the Boys fell a throwing mud, dirt, and Shooe-clouts upon them; for they were so full of Meal, that no body could know them. When they came

The pursuit of the History

again to themselves, and perceived they were in the street, and unbound, they presently rose up, and betook themselves to their heels; so that one might very well then have said, stop the Constable. They left behind them their Cloaks, Swords, and Daggers; not daring to return again for them, that no body might know the business. The Master of the house took possession of all, in recompence of the loss he had sustained. When I went out of the house, to go my way, I put with a Cloak that was none of the worst, which I took up, and left mine instead of it. I gave God thanks that I came off so well in that days adventure; which was a new world to me, who was wont always to go by the worst; I went to the Taylors Wives House, where I found a great hurly-burly, and the Taylor taking measure of his Wives Ribs with a good Cudgel; because she was come home alone, without

Veil

Veil or Pattens, running through the streets with more than an hundred Boys at her tail. I came in good time: for as soon as the Taylor saw me, he left his Wife, and fell upon my Jack, giving me a blow with his fist over the face, wherewith he struck out those few teeth that I had left me, and some ten or twelve spurns in the guts, that made me cast up again that little which I had eaten. What (said he) infamous Baud, are you not ashamed to come to my house? You shall surely now pay your old and new score both at once: and calling unto his Servants to bring forth a Blanket, they put me into it, and tossed me at their pleasures, and my great grief, leaving me for dead; and in that case they laid me upon a bench, being already night. When I came again to my self, and thought to have stirred, I fell to the ground, and with the fall, I brake one of my Arms.

The pursuit of the History

The day being come, by little and by little I crawled unto a Church-gate : where, with a pitiful voice, I craved the charitable Alms of such persons as went in and out.

CHAP. XV.

How Lazaro made himself an Hermit.

Lying at the Church-door, and making a collection of my former life ; I considered all the misfortunes that I had passed, from the day that I began to serve the Blind-man, until the present instant : And all the Reckonings made up, I found, that rising early did not bring on the day faster, nor continual toil make a man always rich ; but as the Song saith :

*The early riser doth not thrive
So well as he whom God doth drive.*

To

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

To him I recommended my self, that the end might prove better than either the beginning or the middle had been. It was my chance to be close to a venerable and white-bearded Hermite, having a Staffe and Beads in his hand, at the end whereof did hang a Deaths-head, of the bigness of a Conies. This good Father seeing me distressed with kind and mild speeches began to comfort me, asking me from whence I was, and what chances had brought me to this estate? I, in few and compendious terms, gave him to understand the long and large extent of my bitter and painful Pilgrimage. He was amazed to hear me, and moved with piety and pity towards me, he invited me home to his Hermitage. I accepted of his offer, and as well as I could (which was with no little pain) we came to the Oratory, which was two miles from thence in a Rock; close to the
which

The pursuit of the History

which there was a Chamber with a hollownes in one of the walls, where his Bed stood. Within the Yard was a Cestern with fresh water wherewith he watered a Garden, more curious and neat, than vast and spacious. Here (said the good old man) have I lived these twenty years, free from the jarring and unquietness of the World: this is (my Brother) the earthly Paradise. Here do I contemplate both divine and humane matters: here do I fast when I am filled, and eat when I am hungry: here do I watch when I cannot sleep; and sleep, when I am weary of watching. Here am I solitary, when I want company: and am accompanied, when I am not alone. Here do I sing, when I am merry; and weep when I am sad. Here do I work when I am not idle; and am idle when I do not work. Here do I think upon my bad life that is passed; and consider the good one that
is

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

is present. Here lastly, it is where all things are unknown; and where the knowledge of all things is attained. It did me good at the heart to hear the merrily disposed Hermite: And therefore I desired him to give me some notion of the Hermitical life, for it seemed to me the Quintessence of all others. It is by so much the best (answered he) that he only can tell who hath made tryal of it: but we cannot now have leisure to discourse any farther upon it, by reason that it is dinner time. I intreated him to give me some remedy for my arms, which was very sore. He did it with such ease and facility, as from thence forwards it pained me no more. We did eat like Kings, and drank like Germans. Dinner being ended, In the middle of our noon-sleep, the good Hermite began to cry out, *Ldye, I dye.* I presently arose, and found him ready to give up the Ghost. Seeing him in
this

The pursuit of the History

this case, I asked him if he was dying; he answered me, I, I, I: and only repeating I, dyed within an hour after. I found my self in a peck of troubles; considering, that if the man did dye without witnesses, one might say, that I had killed him, and so it would cost me my life, which till then with so much ado I had preserved; and that few witnesses would serve to convince me of the fact, by reason that my Garb and Fashion would make me be taken rather for a Robber upon the Highways, than for a man of worship. I came instantly out of the Cell, to see if I could find thereabouts any body, to be a witness of that death and looking on every side, I perceived a flock of sheep not far from thence, towards the which I went in all hast, (though not without pain, feeling the Taylor still upon my bones) where I found six or seven shepherds, and four or five shepherdes-

ses,

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

ses, under the shade of certain willows, near adjoyning to a delightful and clear Spring. The shepheards did pipe; the Shepheardesses did sing; some capered, and others danced: one held a Wench by the hand, another slept in another Wenches lap. Briefly, they all passed away the heat of the day in Love-games, and pleasant discourses. I came unto them panting and out of breath, desiring them, that without any stay they would come with me, for the Hermite lay a dying. Some of them followed me, leaving the rest to keep their flocks. Being entred into the Hermitage, they asked the good Hermite, whether he did mean to dye? who answered them, I, (but he lyed, for he had no mind to it, but was forced to it against his will.) When I saw that he persisted still in one and the same note, answering I, to all questions; I asked him, if he intended that those Shepheards should be his Executors? he said, I,
I

The pursuit of the History

I asked him if he did not make me his sole & lawful heir? he answered he went on asking him, if he did not acknowledg and confess, that whatsoever he did or might possess, was due unto me, both for my good and acceptable services, as for divers things which he had received of me? he again said, I: which I, I wished might have been the last accent of his life. But as I perceived, that there was yet some breath in his body (fearing lest he should bestow it to my loss and dammage) I went on still with my demands, causing one of the Shepherds to note down all that he said: which the Shepherd did with a Coal against the wall, because he had neither Pen nor Ink-horn. I asked him, if he was not content, that that Shepherd should sign and subscribe for him unto his will, since he himself was unable to do it: he answered, I, I, I, and there-upon dyed. We took order for his Butial, making a Grave for him in his

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

his Garden, with the greatest speed that might be, for the fear that I had least he should rise again. I desired the Shepheards to take part of a collation; but they thanked me, by reason that it was already time to drive forth their Cattel for to feed: and so they departed, saying, they were very heavy for my loss. I locked fast the door of the Cell, and ransacked instantly every corner. I found a great Earthen Vessel full of good Wine, and another of Oyl; two Pots of Honey, two sides of Bacon, much powdered Mear, and some dryed Fruits; all which did please me very well, but yet it was not that which I did seek. I found his Chests full of linnen; and in a corner of one of them, a Womans Garment. Although that made me wonder, yet I wondred more that a man so provident and thrifty as he was, should be without money. I was in mind to go to his Grave, and ask him where he had

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had put it; and me thought, that having asked him, he made me this answer: Thou fool, dost thou think, that living in this unneighbourd and solitary place, at the mercy of every Rogue and Theif, I was to keep within a Trunk (in danger of losing it) that which I loved and esteemed more than my life? This inspiration (as if really I had received it from his mouth) made me seek in every corner: but finding nothing, I considered with my self, that if I were to hide money in such a place as nobody might find it, where would I put it? I said, within yonder Altar, to the which I went instantly, and lifting up the Cloth that hung before it at one side of it, being all of Brick, I perceived a chink wide enough only to put through a Ryall of eight. My blood began to rise, and my heart to pant. I took a Pick-axe, and in less than two blows, I threw half the Altar

to

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

to the ground, and discovered the Reliques that were there intombed. I found a pot of Money, which I told out, and found the sum to be six hundred Ryals. The joy and content that I received was so great, that I had like to have died. I took it from thence, and digged an hole without the Hermitage, where I buried it, that (if I were driven from thence) I might find without, that which I so highly and dearly cherished. That done, I cloathed my self in the Hermites weeds, and went to the City, to give notice to the Prior of the Society, of what was passed; not forgetting before I went, to mend up again the Altar as it was before. It was my fortune to meet all the Brethren together, of whom the Hermitage did depend, which was consecrated to St. Lazaro; whence I gathered a good prognostick for my self: who when they saw me already gray-headed, and of

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an exemplary aspect (which is most requisite for such Professions) although they found one difficulty, which was, that I had no beard (because it was not yet grown again, having shaved it not long before) yet notwithstanding, seeing (by the report of the Shepherds) that the deceased had made me his Heir, they gave me the hold and possession of the Hermitage. But now I speak of beards, I remember what a certain Frier did once tell me, which was, that in their order, and in others of the most reformed sort, they never make any Superiour, unless he be well furnished with beard: by means whereof it cometh to pass, that many who are sufficient and capable to exercise that charge, are excluded, others preferred to the same, though unworthy, so that their chin be well stored with down: as if to rule and govern well, did rather depend of hairs, than

than of a good and ripe understanding. The Brothers admonished me to live according to the example and good reputation of my predecessor, which was such, as every one held him for a Saint. I told them that I would shew myself a *Hercules*. They warned me likewise, that I should not beg but upon Tuesdays and Saturdays, because if I did otherwise, the Fryers would punish me. I promised them to fullfil in all points what they should ordain me (and the rather, because I had no great mind to come into their churches, having already tryed of what mettle their hands were made.) I began then to beg from door to door, with a low, humble, and devout tone (as I had learned in the Blind-mans School) and that not for any need, but because it is a use and custom among beggers, who the more they have, the more they desire, and with more gust. The

The pursuit of the History

folks that did hear me say, Pray bestow something towards the Lamp of the good Saint *Lazaro*, and did not know the voice, came out to the door, and seeing me, did wonder much, and asked me where the Father *Anselmo* was? (for so was the good old man called) I told them that he was departed this World. The one said, Now God be with him, and give him good rest, that was so good a man. The others, May his blessed Soul enjoy celestial happiness. Some said, Blessed be he that led such a life; for in six years he hath not eaten any hot meat whatsoever. Others said, He fasted with Bread and Water. Some foolish and superstitious women would kneel down and call upon the Father *Anselmo*. One asked me what I had done with his habit. I told her that it was the same that I did wear. She (without saying what she would have) pulled out her Sizars, and began

gan to cut off a piece of that she could first lay hold on, which was just before my fore-part; whereupon I began to cry out, fearing she would have gelded me. But she seeing me so dismayed, said, Fear not Brother, for I will not be without a relique of that blessed man, but I will pay for the damage done to your Garment. Ah (said some) without doubt before six months be at an end, he will be canonized, for he hath done many miracles. There came so many to see his sepulchre, that the House was always full; wherefore I thought it fit to bring him forth under a Pent-house before the Hermitage: and from thence forward, I beg'd no more for Saint *Lazaro's* Lamp, but for that of the blessed *Anselmo*. I could never yet understand that manner of begging, Give to the Lamp, or for to light the Saints. But I will not harp too much upon that string; for it

The pursuit of the History

jar in the ears of those, who with the Saints Oyl, do maintain the lamps of their stomachs. I cared not much to go to the City having within the Cell what I desired; yet lest they should say I was rich, and therefore I did not beg. I went thither the day following, where befel me that which you may read in the next Chapter.

CHAP. XVI.

How Lazaro would have married again.

GOOD luck is better than a patrimony; to an unfortunate man, a Hog is no better than a Dog. We see oftentimes many men spring from the slime of the earth, and without knowing how they find themselves rich, honored, feared, and esteemed. If you ask, is that man learned? one will answer you, As an Ass. Is he wise? As a Woodcock.

cock. Hath he any good qualities? As many as a Carman. From whence then cometh to him all his wealth? One will tell you from fortune. And contrariwise, many that are discreet, wise, prudent, full of a thousand perfections, and fit to rule a Kingdom, do see themselves needy, scorned, dejected, and made the Dish-clouts of the World. If you demand the reason hereof: One will answer you, A cross fortune doth pursue them. The same (as I think) pursued and persecuted me, giving in me an instance unto the World of what she is able to do; for since the foundation of it, no man hath been so tossed by that unfortunate Fortune. But to follow my discourse, I went through a street begging (as I was wont) for the good Saint *Lazaro*; (for I durst not beg within the City for the blessed *Anselmo*, that was only for Idiots and Superstitious Women that came to rub their

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Beads upon his sepulcher, where according to their sayings, many miracles were done.) And coming to a door, and doing there as at others, I heard some body call me from the stairs head, saying, come up further, come up: what mean you to be so strange? I went up, and upon the midst of the stairs, (which were somewhat dark) certain Women met me: The one hung about my neck, the other took me by the hands, diving with theirs into my pockets. All of them asked me, why they had not seen me these eight days? But when we were come up to the stairs head, and thar by the light of the Windows they saw me, they were all amazed, and looked one upon another, as if they had been Matachines; and in the end brake out into such laughter, that one would have thought they did it for a VVager, none of them being able to utter one word. The first that

spake

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

spake, was a little Boy, that said,
This is not my Daddy. But when
this flux of laughter was somewhat
over, the Women (who were four)
asked me for whom I begged? I
told them, for Saint *Lazaro*. For
Saint *Lazaro*? said they. Why is
not the Father *Anselmo* well? Well?
(answered I) yes sure, he complain-
eth of nothing; for he dyed eight
days ago. When they heard this,
they fell all a roaring; and if their
laughing had been before great, their
wailing was now greater. Some
cryed; others pulled themselves by
the hairs; all of them together
made such a jarring Musick, that a
quire of hoarse Nuns could scarce
make a worse. One said, what shall
become of me, wretch that I am,
without an Husband, without de-
fence, and without Counsel? whi-
ther shall I go? who shall maintain
me? O heavy news! what mis-
chance is this? Another brake out
thus:

The Pursuit of the History

thus: My dear Son in Law and Master! How have you forsaken us, without bidding us farewell? O my poor little Children, now Orphants, and comfortless, where is your good Father? The little brats held the *Superius* of that untuned Musick. Every one wept, every one took on; there was nothing but sobs, nothing but wailings. But when the waters of that great Deluge grew somewhat towards an Ebb, they asked and enquired of me, how, and of what disease he died. I told it them; as also the will which he made, leaving and ordaining me for his lawful heir and successor. There was the blow. It was there that tears were turned into fury, sobs unto blasphemies, and wailings into threarnings. You are some Thief that have murdered him to rob him; but you shall not brag of it (said the youngest) for that Hermite was my Husband, and these three Children are his:
and

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

and unless you do give us all his goods, and restore unto me a Garment that I lent him to disguise himself upon Shrove-Tuesday, we will make you to be hanged, and if Justice be denied, there are Swords and Pistols in the World, wherewith to make you lose a thousand lives, if so many you had. I told them that I had sufficient witnesses, before whom he had made his Will. These are all tricks and gulleries (said they) for the same day that you said he dyed, he was here, and told us, that he had no company. After I had considered with myself, that the will had not been made under the hands of notaries, and that those Women did threaten me; for the experience that I had of Law, and Suits, I determined to speak them fair, to try if by that means I might compass that which by Law I was assured to lose: as also, for that the tears of the young Wid-

The pursuit of the History

Widdow had penetrated to the interior parts of my heart. And so I desired them to be quiet, telling them, that they should lose nothing by me; and that if I had accepted to be his Heir, it was only because I thought that the deceased was no married man, having never heard before that Hermites were married. They (all sadness and melancholly being cast off) began to laugh, saying, That they saw well that I was a novice, and little experimented in that office, since I knew not, that when an Hermite is termed solitary, it is meant that he is to be sequestered from the company and society of men, and not of Women; for there is not any, but hath one at the least, with whom he may pass in exercises of action, the vacant time, from those of speculation: imitating in that your holy Predecessors: and so much the more, by reason that they are persons that are better
-fiw in

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

informed of the will of God, who hath ordained, that man should not be alone, and therefore they, like dutiful and obedient Children have each of them one or two Wives, whom they maintain, though it be even of almes; and particularly, the unhappy wretch that is dead, who nourished and kept four, that poor Widdow, and I that am her Mother, and those two her sisters, besides those three Infants that are his Children, or at least that he held for such. Then she, whom they said to be his Wife, said, that she would not be called the widdow of that old rotten Carcass, that had not remembered her at his death; and that she would be sworn, that those Children were none of his, and that from that time she did annul and break all contracts of Matrimony made between them. I then asked her, what the contents of that contract were? The Mother replied, say-

The pursuit of the History

saying: The matrimonial Covenants that I made, when I married my Daughter with that ungrateful man were these that follow; which that you may the better understand, I must of necessity begin farther off. I lived heretofore in a Town called *Duenas*, some twelve miles hence, having only remaining these three Daughters, of three sundry Farhers, who (to the nearest conjecture) were a Monk, an Abbot, and a Priest; for I have been always much devoted unto the Church. But at length I came to dwell in this City, to eschew the rumours which are frequent in such little places; for every one termed me the Ecclesiastical Widow, by reason that (to my grief) all three of them were dead. And though others presently did supply their places, they were men of little gain, and of less authority; who not contenting themselves with the Mother, laid snares to entrap the young

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

young ones: which to prevent, seeing the danger imminent, and that the gain was so sufficient to maintain us, here I pitched, and began to set up. At the report of the three wenches, suitors came as thick as Gnats to the Wine-tap; but to none of them all did I ever incline so much as to Church-men, being persons that are secret, rich, thrifty, and patient. Now among others, the Hermite of S. Lazaro came a begging, and seeing this Maid, fell in love with her, and in holiness and simplicity did desire her of me for his Wife. I clapped up the match upon these Articles and Conditions that I will tell you. First, he obliged himself to feed our whole Household, and what we our selves could earn, should be to apparel us, and to put up. Secondly, that if at any time my Daughter did admit any Ooadjuror, (he being somewhat old and crasie) he should not make any words

The pursuit of the History

words of it. Thirdly, that he should hold and esteem as his own, all the Children that she should bear, to whom from that instant he assured all whatsoever he did or might possess; and that coming to pass that my Daughter should be without issue, he did make her his sole and lawful Heir. Fourthly, that he was not to come into our house, when he should see a Jar, Pot, or other Vessel at the Window; a token, that then there was no room for him. Fifthly, that if, he being in the House, any other did come, he was then to hide himself where we should bid him, until the other were departed. Sixthly and lastly, that he should be a Mediator, to bring hither twice every week some friend or acquaintance of his, to make merry with us at their own charges. These are (said she) the conditions, upon the which that wretch betrothed himself to my Daughter,

Daughter, and she to him. The Marriage was made and ended, without either Priest or Curate; for he told me that it was needless, since the essence thereof did consist only in-conformity of minds and mutual intentions. I was amazed at the speeches of that other *Celestina*, and at the Articles of her Daughters marriage: I was perplext, not knowing what to say, until they opened a passage to my desires: for the young Widdow fell about my neck, saying, if that unhappy man had had this Angels face, how much should I have loved him? and with that, she kissed me. After this kiss, there entred into me I know not what, that began to set me a fire; so that without any delay, or farther discourse, I told her, That if she were minded to forsake her Widdowhood, and receive me as her own, I would not only keep and fullfil my Predecessors Covenants, but all others

Y

The pursuit of the History

thers whatsoever that they would add. They were well pleased with that, and said, That they only desired, that I should put into their hands all that which was in the hermitage, and that they would keep it. I promised them so to do, but with intent to conceal the money for a need. The concluding of the match was referred unto the next day; and that afternoon they sent a Cart to the Cell, wherein they carried away all, even to the ashes, not forbearing so much as the Alter-cloth, or the Saints Garments, I was so love-nettled, that if they had asked me the *Phoenix*, or Water out of the *Stygian Lake*, I would have given it them. They left me nothing but a poor Straw-bed, whereon I might cast my self like a Dog. When the good Lady, my future Wife (who came with the Cart), saw that there was no money, she was angry (for the old man had told her, that he had

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

had some, but not where) and asked me if I did not know where the treasure lay? I told her, No. She, crafty and subtle as she was, took me by the hand, that we might go seek it together, and carried me into every hole and corner of the Hermitage. As we went about the Altar, she perceived the side of the wall which was newly made up, whereupon she entred into suspicion of me. And therefore imbracing and kissing me, she said unto me, I pray thee my Love, tell me where the money is, that we may make a merry Wedding with it. I still denied that I knew of any. Then she taking me again by the hand, made me walk out round about the Hermitage, still looking me in the face, and when we came to the place where I had hid the money, my eyes were instantly towards it. She, who all this while watched but for that action, called straightways to her

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Mother, bidding her seek under a stone that I had laid there; which she doing, met with the money, and I with my death. But she dissembled, saying, Look here, we will live a merry life with this. Then shewing me all manner of kindness, they presently (because it grew late) retired to the City, and left me until the next morning, that I was to go to their house, where we should make the merriest Wedding that ever was seen. God grant it (said I to my self.) All that night I ballanced between hope and fear, least those women should deceive me, although it seemed impossible unto me, that a false heart should lurk under so good a face; for, as the *Biskanois* said, if thy face be good, thy actions will be answerable. That night was a year to me. It was yet scarce day, when as locking up my Hermitage, I when to be married, as if that had been but a slight matter; not remembering

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

membring that *Elvira* was my wife,
I came to the house at their rising;
where they received me with such
joy, that I accounted my self a happy
man, and all fear laid aside, I began
to ordain and command as in mine
own house. We made such good
cheer, and with such content, that
I thought I was in a Paradise: We
wanted not company, for they had
invited five or six women of their
friends. After dinner, we fell to
dancing; and though I was altoge-
ther ignorant therein, they forced
me to do the like. It was the best
sport in the world to see me hobble
up and down in my Hermites attire.
But night being come, after a good
supper, and better drinking, they
carried me into a fair Chamber,
where there was a good bed, and
bad me make my self unready, and
go to bed first, whilst my Bride was
undressing. I did so, though con-
trary to the fashion of my Country,

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where the woman hath that prerogative. A Maid was left to help me off with my Stockings, who told me, that I must put off my shirt; for it was requisite that for some ceremonies that were yet to be performed, I should be stark naked. I obeyed her: but I was no sooner in the Bed, but all the women, and my Bride among them, rushed into the Chamber; and the first thing they did, two of them took me by the feet, and two by the arms, and tied instantly four cords about them, wherewith they bound me to the four Bed-posts, leaving me stretched like a *St. Andrew* upon a Cross; whereupon they all fell a laughing like mad folks, and I a roaring like a Bull. But they told me, unless I held my peace, that I was a dead man. Then they took a great Basin of hot water, wherein they popped my head. I burned my self, and which was worse, if I thought

thought to cry out, they so belaced me with stripes, that I was constrained to let them do their pleasure. They scalded off my beard, hair, eye-brows, and eye-lids, saying, A little more patience, and the ceremonies will be ended, and you shall enjoy your desire. I intreated them to let me go, for my itch of marrying was now cooled. But one of them boldest of them, drawing out a knife, said to the others, Hold him fast, and I will geld him a little, that his mortified flesh may not another time be tempted to copulation. The holy Hermite believed (I think) that all we told him had been Gospel, but yfaith it was not, nor Epistle neither. He would trust to Women; he shall see now what will come on t. When I saw my precious stones in such danger, I struggled in such manner, as I brake one of the cords, and withal one of the Bed-posts; being animated by a desire

The pursuit of the History

that I had, to keep my Bells for a Morris-dance. They seeing what I had done, for fear least I should break all the Bed, unbound me, and putting me in a sheet, they tossed me so long, that they left me for dead. These are; said they, Sir, the Ceremonies wherewith our Wedding begin; if it please you to come again to morrow, we will make an end of the rest: and with that, four of them took me up, and carried me a good way from their house, and laid me in the midst of the street; where the day found me, and the Boys began to run after me, and do me a great deal of mischief; so that to avoid them, I ran into a Church, close to the high Altar, where they were at Mass. When the Priests saw such a sight, which questionless resembled the Devil that Painters use to lay under S. Michaels feet; they all ran away, and I among them, to free my self from
the

of Lazarillo de Tormes.

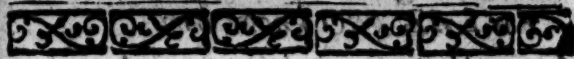
the misdemeanors of those Devils incarnate. The people that were in the Church, cryed out some, Take heed of the Devil; others, Beware of the Mad-man. I cryed out as well as they, that I was neither Devil nor Mad-man, but only a poor fellow, whom God for my sins had visited with that misery. When they perceived, that I was not what they took me to be, they all were quieted; the Priests returned back again, to make an end of their Mass; and the Sexton gave me the Cloth of a Tomb, to wrap my self in. I went into a corner, where I considered the crosses of Fortune, and how on every side man is beset with misery, and therefore I determined to abide in that Church, and there end my days (which, in regard of my former woes, could not be very long) and save the Priests a labour of fetching me elsewhere, after my death.

This is in sum (courteous Reader)

The pursuit of the History

der) the second part of the life of
Lazarillo; without either adding or
diminishing, but even as I have
heard my great Grand-mother tell
it. If thou dost like it, expect the
Third Part, which shall equal both
the former.

F I N I S.



TO THE

Publisher of the History of
LAZARILLO DE TORMES.

*WE thank you for this Honest Cheat
That cozen's nought but time,
And shew's when LAZARO would eat
Necessity's no crime :*

*Who as his Wit did ebb or flow
Did want or get a Meal ;
Tost by new Masters to and fro
Like a new Common-weal.*

*By wild Ambition never caught
To lift him above Earth,
But by his Fortune squar'd his Thought
As humble as his Birth.*

No

No down-right Theeving goes for Wit,
For LAZ ARO knows how
A man that's penniless may eat,
And yet be honest too.

Here Wits have gather'd fests and Sense
To Garnish forth a Play,
Poets have borrow'd much more hence
Than e're they mean to pay.

Here's nothing twice repeated or e's
Or filthily obscene,
No Dam-me Oaths that rant and roar,
All's innocent and clean.

For thou so rescuest LAZ ARO
The poor man is grown rich,
His Spanish is so Englished now
We know not which is which.

Then turn him loose, he needs not fear
Now he hath got his own;
His hunger will make us good cheer
Let him but walk the Town.

No length with *LAZARO* prevails,
Till th' Readers eyes grow dim;
GUZMAN and his Long-winded tales
Are *SPANISH ROGUES* to him

FINIS.

T. P.

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